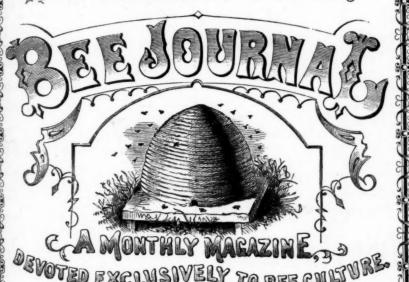
Vol. XII.

MARCH, 1876.

No. 3.

THE

AMERICAN



Established in 1861, by the late Samuel Wagner.

AND

The National Bee Journal,

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I have founded my business on the belief that I the public are anxious to get their seeds directly form the grower, and I therefore offer FREE to every man and woman in the United States who cultivates a farm, tills a vegetable garden, or plants a flower garden, my large, Illustrated Catalogue of Vegetable and Flower Seeds for 1876; it contains, in addition to the choicest kinds produced in Europe, one hundred and fifty varieties of vegetable seed grown on my four seed farms. Customers of last season need not write for it. As the original introducer of the Hubbard, Marblehead and Butman Squashes, Phinney's Melon, the Marblehead Cabbages, and a score of other new vegetables, I solicit your patronage. All seed sold under three warrants. A hundred thousand catalogues will be issued and sent out the first of January. JAMES J. H. GREGORY, Marblehead, Mass.

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Small Hive and Tested Queen	3.50
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Plants, &c., sent zafely by mail 2000 miles, postage free; 12 thoses, \$1.00. 30 Verbenas, \$1.00. 15 Basket, or Bedding Plants, \$1.00. 17 Basket, or Bedding Plants, \$1.00. Ar Paper Catalogue, free, 100 other things, chesp. 137 Also, all sorts of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, &c. At 9 page Catalogue, free, 27d year. 400 acres. 13 green-houses. STORRS, HARRISON & COL, PARMENIALS, O.

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WM. W. CARY,

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Thirteen years experience in propagating Queens, direct from imported mothers from the best district in Italy. Persons purchasing

QUEENS OR SWARMS

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Send for circulars.

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VERY Bee-keeper in America should feel a VERY Bee-keeper in America should feel a just pride in possessing a portrait of the illustrious Bee-keeper, M. QUINEY, and to bring it within the reach of all, we have REDUCED the price. Our fine engraving, (size 9x11 inches, suitable for framing,) with autograph signature, sent postpaid for 20 cents. Our aim is to put it at prices that will just bear the expenses of advertising, printing and mailing. Address

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Contents of this Number.

The Bee Queen's Temptation53
The National Society54
Centennial Bee-Keepers' Convention55
Personal and other Items55
Moses Quinby (Poetry)56
Adulterated Honey58
Origin of the Albino Bee58
Missouri Valley Association58, 63
Comb vs. Extracted Honey59
Six Months among the Bees59
Undesired Experience
Whom the Gods would Destroy, etc65
Economise their Labors
How to Make It
North-Eastern Bee-Keepers' Association68
Report of the Centennial Committee75
Sundry Items
Visiting76
Voices from Among the Hives

500 COLONIES OF ITALIAN BEES FOR SALE

ON account of my failing health, I will sell and ship, between May 1st and May 20th, 500 Colonies of Italian Bees, in 8-frame Langstroth movable-comb hives in good condition in every respect, and guarantee safe arrival if ordered in lots from 1 to 20, shipped by Express, for the following prices: lowing prices:

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Single Colonies, \$11.00; 2 to 6, \$10.50; 7 to 20, \$10.00; 21 to 500, \$9.00. Hybrids, 50 cents less.
Orders must include cash, or will not be noticed. If large lots are ordered the purchaser must run his own risk of safe arrival. Having wintered 1,400 colonies, I will doubtless be able to make a satisfactory selection.

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WE have the finest stock of ITALIAN BEES in the world, and have had 14 years experience

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We breed from imported and home-bred mothers. Ninety per cent. of our queens prove to be purely fertilized.

ALL QUEENS WARRANTED PURE.

Safe arrival guaranteed by mail.

Queens, \$2.00 each. CIRCULARS FREE.

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Pure Albino Queens for 1876.



THE Best in the World! The swarm of bees that took the First Premium at the Georgia State Fair was my Albino State Fair was ment. Send for Price List.

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SEND for E. W. HALE'S Price List of Queens for 1876. All Queens raised in full colonies and from Imported Mothers. No bee disease has been been proposed to the colonies of th my locality. Address, E. W. HALE,

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For terms, address, BARNUM & PEYTON, Edgefield Junction, Davidson Co., Ten. March3m

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AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL,

DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO BEE CULTURE.

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CHICAGO, MARCH, 1876.

No. 3.

The Bee Queen's Temptation.

Since our last issue, Mrs. ELLEN S. TUP-PER, long known as a writer on bee culture, has "fallen like a star from heaven."

On the 28th of January Mrs Tupper was arrested for forgery. It appears that she has freely used the names of her relatives and friends, and in addition, forged the names of leading citizens of various cities of Iowa, from the name of the governor of the State, down; as well as the names of leading men in the Eastern States. Her forgeries will foot up somewhere from fifteen to twenty thousand dollars, and perhaps more. A correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, from Des Moines, under date of February 3d, 3878.

There have been notes and drafts to about \$2,000 protested and dishonored here for want of funds in bank. What has she done with this money? She has not expended it here, as her property is incumbered by mortgages, covering it all, and collections against her have been difficult for some time. She has not expended it in living or about her premises. It is supposed she has sent the money away for some other purpose. She was arrested at State Centre, and removed to Monticello. Her daughter, Kate, went to her, and, when she arrived, she gave Kate a letter, requesting her to read it alone. It was a long letter, reviewing her struggles in life to raise her family and mainain them, and inclosed two notes, which the said, were given under circumstances that she must keep secret. One read as

DES MOINES, IA., December 1, 1875. — Thirty days after date I promise to pay Mrs. Ellen S. Tapper, or bearer, the sum of \$1,000, with interest his JESUE M CHRIST. mark.

The other was for \$500, at sixty days, and drawn in the same way.

She induced the publisher of THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL to indorse for her to the amount of \$1,000. In doing this he broke over a rule of his life,—his

father having been ruined by endorsing Bank paper. But he did it out of pure sympathy, believing her story of embarassment caused by her sickness and being unable to attend to her apiary. claimed that she had honey and supplies enough, which she could turn into money in 30 days to pay it, and if not, she had a mortgage on some land in O'Brien County, or something of that sort, that she could raise it on, within the time, and that we should never hear of it again. But we not only heard from it eften, in the way of Bank protests, etc., that nearly ruined us financially - but by a very "crooked" financial practice (a sharp trick) she doubled the amount, making it \$2,000. For a portion of this, we understand that suit is about to be commenced against us. Now, sympathy will not pay it-it must be greenbacks-to the last

The editor of the Denison Review thus soliloquises:

"Of course she is crazy; has been ever since she began to forge. A man must commit murder, or at least, adultery; a weman must poison her husband, strangle her babe, or forge notes, before the public finds out how much good there is in them —very little attention being paid to men and women when they are honest."

Pomeroy's Democrat says:

"Mrs. Tupper's proverbial philososhy was to forge ahead till she gained \$11,000. And now comes emotional insanity with its uplifted umbrella."

We should be glad to think it insanity, if we could—but that is impossible. There has been too much "method in her madness;"—her "crookedness" has been too chronic

A prominent bee-keeper in New England, well known to our readers, remarks in a letter of recent date: "I don't wish to say much against Mrs. T—, but if swindling, fraud, and forgery, is any indication of insanity, she has been insane,

to my knowledge, for ten years, at least." Letters and claims from bee-keepers, all over the country, are coming in thick and fast, claiming that we should settle with them on her account. To all such we must say: There is no more justice in asking us to settle her bills than in claim-

ing it of the "King of the Sandwich Islands!" She never had any interest in THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, and all she wrote for it was paid for, "cash in ad-

vance, at good round figures."

On February 10th, we addressed the following note to her: "MRS. ELLEN S. TUPPER, Des Moines, Iowa:-You are hereby notified that the contract made with me for your editorial services on THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is this day annulled-severing your connection with that Journal entirely. . . . You are, of course, well aware of the cause of this action-and I need not repeat it here."

THOMAS G. NEWMAN.

We understand she is in a very weak and nervous condition. If she is insane, her "crooked" transactions are no doubt the cause of it, rather than the opposite. We wish her no harm, and greatly regret the necessity for this article-but justice demands that we should speak out. Let this suffice.

THE BIENENVATER .- This is the title of a Bee Journal published at Prague, Bohemia, Europe, by Rudolf Mayerkoeffer, a good friend of the honey-bee, who writes us that there will be an International Agricultural Fair in Prague in May and June, and he is preparing for that occasion, several beautiful glass boxes with excellent honey. The Bienenvater wants to purchase Nos. 1 to 6, January to June, 1875 of the American Bee Journal. If any one has them to spare they may be sent to this office, and we will settle for

R. S. BECKTELL, of New Buffalo, Mich., says that a neighbor of his has found a stone weighing about one pound, which looks as if it had once been a piece of comb-honey, broken and doubled over, so that it presents the cells in different shapes. Petrified honey! Well, why not?

The National Society.

The feeling seems to be general that after the Philadelphia meeting, the Na tional Society should be abandoned. This Society appointed the 6th of September for its next meeting at Philadelphia. We think this time should be adopted for the Centennial Convention, and thus unite all interests. The President, Mr. G. W. Zim. merman, thus writes in reference to the matter:

"After holding the meeting at Philadelphia, I think the Society had better adjourn sine die. I would recommend that each State having no organization, should organize and meet at least twice a year. The journeys to a National Convention are long and expensive, and as we can't get railroad fares reduced now, it is bur-densome. This matter was fully discussed at the convention at Toledo, and those present from Ohio organized 'The Northern Ohio Bee-Keeper's Society,' meetings will be duly announced."

What say the bee-keepers of the United States? Shall the National Society be abandoned or not? We hope they will speak out now, or "ever after hold their peace," on this subject, at least.

An exchange observes that it is a remarkable fact that the first month of this Centennial winter closely resembles that of 1776. The journals of that year speak of the unusual mildness of the season. It was even said that the lack of the usual ice in Boston Harbor prevented Washington from crossing his forces and attempt ing a surprise on the city, and the Americans were enabled to continually send forth vessels from all parts of the harbor to the West Indies for munitions of ww. The mild season enabled Gen. Schuyler, in the first days of January, to dispatch his well-planned little expedition up the Mohawk Valley to surprise the Highlanders under Johnson.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES AND POR-TRAITS. We commence a new idea in this issue of THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNALthat of publishing Biographical Sketches and portraits of some of our "bee men." Those wishing their face to appear as an introduction to the thousands of our readers, will please communicate with the PUBLISHER.

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Centennial Bee-Keepers' Convention.

The Secretary of the Centennial Commission has sent us a letter stating that there would be a special show of honey, June 20th and Nov. 1st. We wrote him that the first was too early and the latter too late, and urged that the time be changed to August or September.

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We wrote several bee-keepers in different parts of the country, asking their opinion about calling such a convention—and also wrote the president of the National Convention for his opinion—all agree with us, that we should have a convention at a suitable and convenient time, say August or September. Now we ask for a general expression of opinion—and would like these who intend going, to say so now; to write us in time for the April number. Letters must reach this office by the 20th of March.

Dr. Millett has sent us the following letter, which explains itself.

Holmesburg, Penn.

Dear Sir:—I think the bee-keepers throughout the country, who wish to exhibit specimens of new honey and comb, ought to know that a certain time will be allowed in which to add fresh specimens, if those who have authority in the matter will make early application to Mr. Burnet Landreth, the chief of the Bureau of Agriculture. I write this, that the committee appointed by the N. A. Bee Association may let Mr. Landreth know what time will be most desirable—whether from July 1st to 20th, or later.

In a late number, the idea was thrown out, that the honey of 1875 only could be exhibited. I have authority for saying that such is not the case. Arrangements may be made (if done soon) to exhibit the gatherings of the Spring of 1876. The same arrangements will be made for flow-

ers and fruit and vegetables.

It is very important that bee-keeping, in all its branches, should be fairly and fully represented—hives of all kinds, bee-books, bee-implements, etc., etc. There will never be such another opportunity.

D. C. MILLETT.

23d Ward of Phila., Station M.

This matter ought to be generally discussed and a decision arrived at before our next issue, and we hope to hear from hundreds during the next fifteen days, and then full announcements will be made in the April number of THE JOURNAL.

In changing post offices, always give old as well as new offices.

JAMES HEDDON and HERBERT A. Burch, of Michigan, called on us, since our last issue. As we had never met either of them before, we were glad to make their acquaintance. We were deceived. We had pictured Mr. H. as a regular "Vinegar Bitters" man. Instead of that we found him pleasant, agreeable and very intelligent. He differs from many of us in his views of some things, but he has a right to his views, and the expression of them. He acknowledged that his remarks were too sweeping about the Bee Journals, and said he had no intention of applying his remarks to THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. Mr. H. is earnest and persistent, and has a right to be heard. He has an article in this issue on "Whom the gods would destroy, they first make mad," in reply to remarks made by friends King & Slo-CUM of The Bee-keepers' Magazine, and friend Root, of Gleanings. Some remarks are severe; but in giving them a place, we do not wish to be understood as being in any way unfriendly towards our cotempo raries, for we are not, but simply as a matter of justice, to let Mr. Heddon be heard for himself. THE AMERICAN BEE JOUR-NAL has always prided itself upon the fact, that its columns were free to all-and is, has been and always will be-devoted to the interests of the honey-producers of the world, so long as it is in the hands of PUBLISHER. the present

We are asked to give Geo. S. Wagner's address. We do not know just where he is—but he went to heaven some fifteen months ago, where he no doubt received a hearty welcome from his loving father—for many years the able editor of this JOURNAL. Mrs. W. is now left alone, and has returned to their former home at York, Pa., awaiting the angel's call.

In order to give us more room and pleasanter quarters, we have removed our editorial and business room a few doors north. Letters addressed to either numbers will readily find us. Callers will find us at all times at Room 20, No. 184 Clark St., Chicago, and will always be welcome. Come and see us when in Chicago.

A correspondent writes us, asking which would be the cheapest and most effectual way to reach bee-keepers-by circulars or an advertisement in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL? By all means the advertisement is the most effectual way of communicating with bee-keepers. Every bee-keeper of prominence or importance takes the Journal and reads it through each month. The subject of economy does not admit of a question. Read what STAPLES & ANDREWS say in their letter in this number. As a proof that advertisers know where it pays them best to advertise, we remark that we do no canvassing-all our advertisements come unsolicited, except by the merits and standing of THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

By private letter we learn that Wm. McKay Hoge, alias John Long, who has been carrying on the Comb Foundation business in New York, is non est inventus. Also, that the Honey House of Mrs. Spaids, in New York, is closed, "To let," being posted on the door. Our readers should make a note of this.

The warm weather of the past two months, all over the country, has caused the buds of fruit trees to swell, and either an early fruit season, or none at all, will be the result-to be determined by the presence or absence of Jack Frost during the coming month.

In order to give the full report of the Eastern Bee-Keepers' Convention in this number, we were compelled to omit several pages of matter already in type, leaving it for the April number. We have added eight pages to the present number making it forty, instead of the usual thirty-two. Another eight may be added at no very distant day.

L. B. Hogue, Lloydsville, O., writes us that the honey-mine story that we enquired of in the last number, is entirely without foundation. He say's he was in that locality when the story was invented, and it was thought to be a "huge joke."

H. D. Mason, Onendaga County, N. Y., writes: "My recept for curing bee stings is kerosene oil, applied as soon as stung. It never fails with me."

For the American Bee Journal Moses Quinby.

"An honest man is the noblest work of God."

The friend of man in every peaceful way, Where science, knowledge, thought, afforded

means, he gentle, kindly, open heart portray Where tenderness with love serenely beams.

How low and little seems the conquerer's name. Compared with thine, philanthropist and friend True worth and goodness—source of grateful fame. Great benefactor thine with blessings blend.

Knowledge, long sought, to thee was reckonel nought,
Nor narrow, selfish view was entertained,
Until the world could profit by the thought,
Your greatest pleasure—what mankind ha

These are no empty terms of fond regard

From friendship drawn—though friendship's

ties were sweet.

The gain of annual millions-nectar barred; A fact your science taught the world to reap.

To-day we miss that kindly beaming smile Which won't to cheer while teaching something

new,
I list thy coming; mind doth so beguile,
Nor can I deem these senses speak so true.

Is it all wrong? Why can you not be here?

Does your identity yet still remain?

Have we all knowledge in this nether sphere; No want your guidance, greater heights to gain!

The God, the Law, the Man, the same, then why.
True, the relation, change in which we grow.
But science teaches, and truth cannot lie, Why not, then, learn, these higher truths to know?

What weak admissions are we wont to make, That any truth should rise beyond our ken. Our business is to learn—not stand and quake— What greater thought can mortals comprehend?

Can we suppose you'd take no pleasure here? Did you e're shrink where man the right could

Where then the reason, but we stop our ear; Reason's not popular. When will it be?

But O, dear friend, your course was ever plain; Progression's law you ever recognized; And here, as there, wherever you remain, Your power not less, through death baptized.

I cannot say good-bye, much less farewell: Through law's relations, I can learn from the There is no Death; true science trumpet tells, Through every change, a living God we see.

The work well done so far is sure your due;
I know of none who greater deed hath done;
But that's the reason, if ought still is you, It must through onward, endless cycles run.

Nor here I doubt; the God within was clear; From what we know, we judge of the unknow. Far past dull faith is knowledge; soul te cheer, Immortal life, demonstrate now is shown.

Hail life's grand anthem then. All are of Thee, Great God; still nearer we to Thee and Thise Thus all in all, forever still must be, And our good friend but fills up Thy design. S. ALEXANDES.

Our "Notes and Queries" depart ment will hereafter be conducted by Mr. Ch. Dadant, who is well known as a practical and successful apiarist. The matter prepared for this number is crowded out

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Biographical.

Joseph M. Brooks.

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JOSEPH M. BROOKS was born in Mt. Holley, State of New Jersey, June 8, 1844. At the age of two years his parents removed to Chagrin Falls, Ohio, where they resided until 1849, when they moved to the city of Cincinnati, thence to Columbus, Ind., where he now resides. Mr. Brooks is, by occupation, a tinner. At the age of thirteen years he commenced

transferring them into frame hives and dividing and Italianizing them the first season. Not being satisfied with the Mitchel or Buckeye hive they were using, they, like all beginners, began to invent hives to their own notion, and as many times set them aside, until, finally, they decided on what is now called "The Brooks Non-Patent Hive. This hive is worked either as a one or two story hive. If run for comb-honey, it contains eleven broad frames, 12x12 in. square, and has abundant room for boxes or small frames, directly on the brood frame. If extracted



Joseph Mo. Broaks.

his trade under the instruction of his father, and for several years has been foreman in the principal shops of his town. Although a mechanic, he has always taken a deep interest in "pets" of some kind, having kept fancy pigeons and poultry until 1874, when he gave them up in order to better care for his bees, believing that "what is worth doing at all, is worth doing well,"—hence his success as an api-

In 1870 he, in company with his brother, purchased their first bees (blacks in box hives). Although they were new at the business, they, with the aid of Quinby's Bee Keeping Explained, succeeded in honey is wanted, an upper story with another set of same sized frames are set on, making twenty-two frames to the hive. They are now wintering fifty-four colonies (pure Italians) in these hives, and they believe them to be the cheapest and best form in use. Their success from the first has been remarkable, never yet having lost a single colony by dysentery or disease of any kind, while their neighbors lose more or less every winter.

Mr. Brooks advertises freely in THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, and to this, as well as to the fact that he keeps only the best of stock, can be attributed his business

Correspondence.

For the American Bee Journal.

Adulterated Honey.

Few topics, perhaps, pertaining to modern bee-culture, have received such general and wide-spread attention at the hands of apiculturists during the past year, as this subject of "adulterated honey."

If it be true, as has been stated, that our American people like to be "humbugged," to do whatever may be within their power to remedy any evil that shall work to their pecuniary detriment. Thus, when it became apparent to American bee-keepers that their products were compelled to compete with the cheap grades of saccharine matter under the guise of honey, they set resolutely to work to remedy the evil; nor have their efforts been altogether devoid of success. We saw it stated in the "old reliable" some time ago, that this "hue and cry" about adulteration had been a damage to the honey producer; since people had come to distrust all liquid honey as an impure or "mixed" article. This may, Mr. Editor, be true, in a measure at least. We hope it is. If the discussion of this subject has lessened the demand for manufactured honey, we are glad of it. If it has had a tendency to make consumers of honey look upon · the liquid article in any shape, with suspicion, thereby rendering its already slow sale still more so, we are not sorry. Honsale still more so, we are not sorry. to be compelled to compete with syrups that are sold by the gallon. But liquid honey must do this, and as long as it is offered on our markets, just so long will it have to compete with the adulterated article, since liquid honey renders adulteration possible. When the price shall have receded below even that of the poorer grades of sugar, we think that our American bee-culturists will discover that their only alternative (if they would make the business pay) is to produce comb-honey exclusively, in small glass packages.

In answer to numerous inquiries of our readers, we will say that "Money in the Apiary," for 1876 has not been issued, and will not be until Spring, perhaps not then. Due notice of its publication will be given in the advertising pages of this JOURNAL.

HERBERT A. BURCH.

So. Haven, Mich., Feb. 21, 1876.

In giving address, be careful to give the full name of individuals, the post office, county and State, and do not write on the same piece of paper that communications for the BEE JOURNAL are written on.

For the American Bee Journal, Origin of the Albino Bee.

As I have received letters from a num. ber of persons in different parts of the country, who wish to know something more definite in reference to the origin of the albino bee, I will here give a full description of their ancestry. The mother of the queen that produced the first albino bees, I received from Mr. H. A. King of Nevalor Children and the control of the da, Ohio. Let me say here, before I proda, Olio. Let like say have ceed further, she was the best queen I ever received from any person. The grand daughter of this queen is the one that produced the first albino. They were about half albino and half Italian. two distinct races of bees in the same Now the difficulty arose in my mind how to get them pure albino. I knew it would be useless to try to breed them pure in my home apiary. So I took them to the South Mountain, out of the range of any other bees, in order to get them pure. I have succeeded in doing so, to my entire satisfaction, and will say, and I think without danger of contradiction, that they are the handsomest bees in the known world. The albino bees in the known world. The albino bees have three beautiful yellow bands. From the band to the end of the bee is quite white or bright silver color; their heads are dark velvet color, different from the Italian; the wings are also finer than the Italian. As for their good qualities, I claim the queens to be very prolific lay-ers; the workers are excellent honeygatherers, they gathered more honey than the Italian last season; they are not as cross, and consequently more pleasant to handle. D. A. PIKE. Smithsburg, Washington Co., Md.

On page 63 will be found the report of the Missouri Valley Association, held on the 15th inst. We would respectfully solicit communications or essays from all practical apiarists, to be read at our next meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, April 4th, '76, at the rooms of Mo. State Board of Agriculture, 41 Insurance Building, corner Sixth and Locust streets, St. Louis, Mo., on the following questions:
"Do bees injure fruit?" "Will bee-keeping pay?" "What is the best hive for all purposes?" "The best mode of artificial increase ?" "Do bees make or gather honey?" "Are the Italians superior to the Black, if so, why?" "The best mode of obtaining box-honey." And we would request that all bee-keepers in and adjoining this county, in Missouri and Illinois, and all that can attend our meetings, to send us their address, so we may notify them of all meetings of the association. You will oblige us by giving this a place in your JOURNAL for March, so we can have time to hear from all interested be-W. G. SMITH. fore our next meeting.

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For the American Bee Journal. Comb vs. Extracted Honey.

MR. EDITOR:-I believe that the successful business man of any calling must watch "the signs of the times," and change his base of operations as the "times" indicate.

So far, I have produced mostly extracted honey, but as that article has become a drug at ten cents per pound, and combhoney in small glass boxes commands a price still, that is better, considering cost of production, I have determined to remove the greater portion if not all of my apiary northward and turn all my working force (130 colonies) to the production of

comb-honey in small boxes.

We have been told by some of the instructors in apiculture, that extracted honey at ten cents per pound could be produced as profitably as could comb honey at twenty-five or thirty cents. When I see such assertions as this, I know that the one who honestly makes them is ignorant of the principles of the manipulation of small boxes. So are the persons who tell us that we can secure more surplus in large than in small boxes. I can secure more surplus comb-honey in small boxes than any live man can do in large ones, in such a locality as mine at least. Perhaps better honey locations and different climates might prove differently, but, on the whole, I believe the extractor has kept us in ignorance of the true principles of comb surplus production. A word in regard to

THE DISPOSAL OF HONEY.

As regard to comb-honey in small glass boxes, it sells itself, in large or small quantities, no matter what the quality

I dispose of my extracted honey by retailing it out (at barrel prices) to my neighbors. In this way I produce demand at the same rate I do honey. If all apiarists would do this, the price of honey might be advanced slightly after a few years. I find that a great demand for any kind of well-ripened honey may be worked up in almost any locality. My greatest drawback has been, that the first two years I used the extractor I did not leave the honey in the combs until it was capped over, and, as a consequence, it would take several years yet to convince all the people that they would get good, sweet, rich heney, instead of nectar. This brings me to the matter of

ADULTERATED HONEY.

A short time ago I received a sharp little letter from C. O. Perrine. Notwithstanding it did not flatter quite a number of us very much, it glittered with sound logic and good sense. Being always open to conviction, and feeling conscious of having a great deal yet to learn, this letter set me to reasoning upon the subject

in this way:

Of course the adulteration of honey increases the supply, but not so much as the proseliting of "everybody" to the bee business; besides if the honey dealers do adulterate, they work up a demand for their production and ours too, and, fur-thermore, their honey is far superior to the nectar that the raw recruit will invariably sling out; besides the latter creates no demand in proportion to the honey he raises. Honey is now being bought by the barrel quite below the cost of sugar syrup; and if the city dealers do adulterate, they do it no doubt to improve the miserable sour nectar that they receive from bee-keepers.

So consummate is their process that it is very difficult for any of us to tell their honey from the "simon pure." I am pretty well persuaded that their honey is pure now-a-days, at least, and, whether it is or no, the less we have to say about it

the better it is for us.

If Perrine's honey is in every way equal to ours, and we call it adulterated, we admit that honey is no better than sugar syrup. If, on the other hand, our honey is superior to his, the people will find it out for themselves. Let us not insult the consumer by shouting: "City honey is adulterated," "We tell you, so you may know it," "You never would know the difference if we did not tell you." How many of us have talked as above only to be accused of our melting up sugar for our trouble. Take "Warranted Pure Honey" off your labels, and simply put on "HONEY" "from A. B.'s apiary, Pordunk, Pa."

When anybody talks of "artificial honey," laugh at them, and tell them to try it; that you think them capable of judging for themselves. This hits their weak spot. Put on the back of a ten dollar greenback, "warranted genuine," and no inexperienced person would take it without due examination. Without the above they would fold it up and soon want more. This is the way it seems to me. My bees now seem to be quite free of the Winter epidemic, though I have heard of

some losses quite severe.

JAMES HEDDON Dowagiac, Mich., Feb. 7th, 1876.

For the American Bee Journal. Six Months among the Bees in California.

ED. AM. BEE JOURNAL:-You have had in your Journal from time to time, during the past year, many rose-colored re-ports from this county, which are in-clined to mislead your army of readers at the East, who have felt an interest in this land of honey. A few items of other facts may also be of interest to your readers, from one who has had pretty good facilities for "learning the ropes," though I do not profess "to know it all,"

yet.

The first thing an apiarist does after his arrival here, is usually to hunt up a "ranch," or location, on which to establish his apiary. This is usually located on government land, after many weeks' search, and may then turn out not to be a good one. The main point is to get within the granite or bee range—a strip of mountainous country 8 or 10 miles wide, extending from Lower California up into Los Angeles county, over 100 miles long.

To select a location here intelligently, one needs to be somewhat of a botanist, or at least to know by sight all the different kinds of honey-plants, their order of blooming, and the relative quantities of each required. Of course one cannot find everything just as he would order it; but take as near a perfect pasture as he can find. In the early days of bee-keeping as a business in San Diego county, the ranches were established on the Sweetwater, a "California stream," which runs out east from just south of the town of San Diego, among the mountains. It is only within the past two years, or since the great excitement began, that other localities were sought for further north. At this writing nearly every location, good, bad or indifferent, has been settled on as far as Temecula, 75 miles north of San Diego, to which point all the products of the apiary have to be carried in wagons, and all supplies brought out, making it very expensive to carry on the business. The roads generally are good, but as all the mountain ranges tend from the seashore toward the southeast, it is easily seen that there are some heavy grades. All or nearly all the teams we meet in traveling are four or six-horse-two to draw the wagon, and the balance the load.

There are few "old settlers" except "greasers," or Indians and Mexicans. The former are half-civilized, dress like whites, live in adobe huts, and either herd their own flocks of cattle, sheep or horses, or else are herders for the Mexican stock men. Since the great rush and settlement in Los Angeles county, which lies next north of this, the larger portion of the sheep men have had to search other and less populated sections for their flocks.

Many thousands of sheep were driven into this county, where they are now overstocked, many herds decreasing in numbers from insufficient food or water. The price, too, this fall for the wool—9 cents or 10 cents—has disgusted many with the business.

Cattle and horses will not feed after sheep.

The stock men dislike to see new settlers come in, as the laws here require herding of stock or suits for damagea. The "bee men," too, dislike to see stock around them, particularly sheep; for although they eat but sparingly of the white sage and other honey-producing plants, they break down the brittle stems, and soon wear out a fine field.

California is famed for its freedom from insect pests injurious to fruit, While that may be true, it nevertheless is quite true that a worm was found in nearly every white sage flower last spring, which will account for the rarity of pure white sage honey in market this year. This worm, with the April frost and extreme dryness of the season, cut off the crop of honey to an average of not over 25 lbs. per hive, and an increase of not over 25 per cent. Indeed, I know of Indeed, I know of one apiary of 250 stocks which gave but two swarms this whole year, and when 1 was there last—at the end of the busy season—the owners had taken but 99 cases of honey. One other apiary of 150 stands came out equally bad, and both did remarkably well last year. One apiary of 500 hives did not give a single pound of surplus. I have heard of but half a dozen or less in this whole county who have made enough to pay exyenses, counting the time and attention required as anything. One gentleman had 150 stands, hired an experienced apiarist at \$45 per month and board. In return he got seven cases, or 400 lbs. of box-honey and an increase by dividing of some 10 or twelve stands. There are many long or twelve stands. There are many long faces among the bee men, and many a poor fellow would like to sell out and quit. I sincerely believe that for a man who understands the business, and whose heart is in the work, bee-keeping here will pay in the long run; still, I think some changes in the prevailing methods of gathering and marketing the products are necessary.

It seems that there has never been any effort made to save the large surplus of honey from the manzinita and blue sage, which bloom in January and April, because they do not produce quite so white a honey as the white sage, and yet many a hive at these times becomes too full of stores for the good of the colony.

At the time (May 20th to July 20th) when the white sage is in bloom, the sumac and grease-wood also yield fully as well. The color of the sumac honey is several shades darker than either of the others, so that it is rare to find sections filled exclusively of either sort.

Possibly the extractor will be reverted to, at least to give it a fair trial to know whether or not it will pay.

Those who are engaged in bee-keeping rarely do anything else, consequently each one has to watch carefully for the 60 m north roads you is a culfare is goph little East; eatin apperaisi acco whice

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There are few cultivated farms in the county, which are as large as a good-sized State-the habitable portion being about 60 miles east and west, and 100 miles north and south. Take either of the two roads leading up north from San Diego, you may travel twenty miles and not see a cultivated field. It is a constant warfare to get and keep things growing. The gophers, ground squirrels (grey and but little smaller than the grey squirrel at the East) and kangaroo rats are omnipresent, eating the seeds or young plants as they appear. Dozens give up in despair of raising even their own vegetables on this account. Some of the land is moist, on which, if properly guarded, nearly everything will grow, and with marvelous rapidity. But such land is the exception, and wherever found in any considerable quantity, it is pretty sure to be covered by a grant, and consequently not to be settled on.

Very little rain falls from April to November—in fact but one shower has fallen since May 1st, and that wet the parched soil but from two to four inches, and was speedily dissipated under the succeeding days of sunshine.

I have not seen any estimate of the relative proportions of cultivable lands too worthless, but my judgment is that not one acre in fifty is good for any purpose of cultivation. The mountains and in fact almost the entire country is bare of trees. The extreme dryness of the climate producing only bushes of a stunted growth averaging five feet high, over tens of thousands of acres in one body.

The principal bush and at the same time, the most worthless for bees, is the chemise or chemisel—a harsh, rough bush from 4 to 6 feet high, through which it is impossible to go either on foot or horseback. The little forays occasionally made upon it only result in torn clothes, bleeding hands and bad tempers. Of course in such a country, from the great scarcity of timber, wood is high and not of good quality.

Such as is taken to market being either small limbs of an inch in diameter, or short, crooked, intractable sticks, which successfully resist the axe, but bring a good price in money. Of churches, there are several in San Diego-not one, to my knowledge, in the country outside the city, except Catholic, and the service in these is usually carried on in Spanish.

There are a few school-houses, but the people live so far apart that the children cannot attend. It is twelve miles from where I am located to the nearest schoolhouse, or any other public building.

As a consequence, the children must be taught by their parents, or allowed to grow up in ignorance.

The idea seems to prevail that all are

here temporarily-that as soon as enough is made to live on elsewhere to pick up and leave.

Physicians are rare outside the town of San Diego-and when called upon to go out 20 to 50 miles to attend a case, their charges are simply extortionate. I recall one case of a charge of \$1,000 for going 50 miles.

It is all very well for people at the East to keep bees, where they are surrounded by the comforts and amenities of lifethey ought to have some drawbacks, for on coming here, one abjures comfort,

society—everything.

To place a man alone on a bee-ranch for a year, he is a fit subject for a lunatic asylum-the solitude is terrible. The oppressive silence of these canyons and mountains with no trees through which the light winds can sigh; the nearly entire absence of birds of song to gladden the heart; the distance to neighbors, all contribute towards the feelings one might have in solitary confinement.

Coming to California, you give up for-

ever all your old associations and enter a new world. The trees, the flowers, the birds, the climate, the soil, the sky-all differ from what one has been accustomed

to from childhood.

It is true they call many trees, bushes and birds here by the same names they do at the East, but you fail to recognize them, and soon come to the wise conclusion to accept everything as strange.

While the farmer has so many difficulties in the way of getting crops to grow, all is not plain sailing for the api-arist. The moth miller has twelve months in a year here to work. Skunks and ants abound.

A skunk will get up in front of a hive and tap on the front of it until enough bees come out and get entangled in his hair for a meal, when he will roll over and over until the poor bees are crushed or stunned, and then he will eat them. Poison, or traps, have to be regularly inserted to keep them from despoiling an

Of ants there are many kinds; from the wee red one of one-sixteenth of an inch in length to those of an inch or

On account of these legions of ants, they have to make stands for their hives to set on, and keep the legs greased with coal-oil or axle-grease, or any other nauseous thing to repel them. Houses intended for honey have to be set "on stilts," which are kept greased to keep out the pests. This is really the plague of the country; and any man who will invent an "Ant Destroyer," sure to kill or drive them away, can come here and make a small fortune selling it.

The water is generally good, though hard, and is usually found at less than 30

feet in depth. I do not know of any artesian well in the county, but would suppose they would be tried, to avoid the great loss of crops during the long seasons of drouth.

In the town of San Diego, the water is not good, but such as it is, is sold at the

rate of three cents a bucketfull.

The Water Company is now trying to remedy this by pumping water from the bed of the river of the same name. Nearly all the water we get from wells is warmer than the outside air, when first drawn, so that you have to let it stand and cool. Ice is out of the question. A little is brought down from somewhere up towards the North Pole, and sold at 5 cents a pound.

a pound.
Those of us who keep horses, usually have to buy hay for them or submit to their getting too poor to do any work

during the long dry seasons.

Hay in this country is not the hay of the Eastern States. It is wheat, barley, or oat straw, cut while yet green.

This is often hauled 15 to 30 miles, as it is only at rare intervals that any is

grown.

The seasons here are two—the wet and the dry. The former extending from December to March, during which time, rain usually falls in sufficient quantities to overflow the sand in the beds of the streams, and even create a torrent through which, over the treacherous quicksands of the streams it is dangerous to cross. Some of the streams are bridged, and few have steep banks where the roads cross them. At this season of the year, the real summer in California, the county gets green and is beautified with flowers.

With the advent of March, the ground dries up, vegetation dies, and by the first of May, the country looks parched and brown. From this time on to December, the same state exists, with nearly the same

temperature.

The climate, meantime, is superb. Nothing any of us have ever been accustomed to will equal it. And this one thing, climate, is the great charm of the country. I have not heard it thunder but once in six months, and that was a weak roll. Neither have I felt any strong wind

during the same time.

The nights are invariably calm, or with the gentlest of low breezes wafting the deliciously soft air across the sea. The early mornings are often foggy and nearly calm until 9 or 10 A. M., during which time, if it chance to be clear, is the hottest part of the day. Then the sea breeze springs up, gently at first, increasing to a fair breeze by 1 or 2 P. M., and then dies down again—and thus will go the rounds—the same thing day after day, weeck after week, and month after month.

G. F. MERRIAM.

San Diego, Cal.

For the American Bee Journal, Undesired Experience.

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All that may be known of bee-culture we have aspired to know; but we have by no means aspired to obtain all our knowl. edge experimentally. To verify in our own little apiary what we learned from Langstroth or Quinby, or from the ex. perienced brethren who teach in our BEE JOURNAL, might, indeed, be delight. ful; but only within certain well-defined limits. For there are heights-or rather depths-of experience concerning which we listened, sometimes with sympathetic interest, sometimes with shuddering wonder and awe-but with never the slightest desire to tread such slippery paths for ourselves. Afflictions like these, we said, belong to apiarists who count their stocks by fifties and hundreds; not to bee-keepers so small as we-bee-keepers who are able to cultivate an intimate acquaintance with each of their queens, and cherish a particular affection for every colony in their possession.

But alas! one by one, all the trials we thought to escape have come upon us; the elopement of swarms; the death of queens beloved; the loss of quarts of bees (though not, as yet, a whole colony) by disease in winter, with all the heart-sickening alternations of hope and despair attendant thereupon; and, finally, most dreaded calamity of all—foul brood! It is of this last misfortune we

write.

Early in the summer of 1874, a pair of wrens with whom we were on friendly and intimate terms, became the prey of our cat, Zebulon. This event concerned us more deeply than the reader may suppose. It was not only that we mourned the sad fate of our little tenants and friends, but there was thrown upon us the grave responsibility of caring for a nestfull of orphaned brood. Six little clamorous mouths called imperatively, and almost incessantly, for food. We had watched the old birds closely enough to learn that crickets were at this time their chief dependence. So, morning, noon and night—or, rather, every hour in the day—we went forth in quest of crickets.

We learned to seek them in their lurking places, beneath the dead bark of the old stumps, and — after a time—we learned how to catch them when found. But, with our utmost endeavors, we could not capture crickets so fast as our prote-

ges could dispose of them.

What with our neglected household duties, our neglected work in the apiary, and the constant pitiful pleadings of our little birds for "more crickets," we were fast becoming fit inmates for a lunatic asylum when a bright thought occurred to us—why not feed them on drone larvæ?

The experiment was tried, and succeeded admirably. Hive after hive was deprived of all drone larvæ of proper age, for our purpose. (Though, beyond this point, the history of our wrens has no relation to my subject, I will briefly furnish their story. We succeeded in raising three of the six. As they grew in size and strength they grew shy and wild, and when, at last, we ventured to set them free, to care for themselves, they seemed most ungratefully willing to leave us, while we, it must be confessed, were only

too glad to see them go.)

While foraging for supplies in behalf of our wrens, and solely in consequence of this search, we discovered what first awakened our apprehensions with regard to foul brood. It was only a few cells of dead larvæ in a single comb—which comb we promptly destroyed. This idea of foul brood was at once suggested, and though we refused to entertain it, we did not delay to carefully examine the brood in each of our seven colonies, while, for some little time, the suspected colony was subjected to the closest scrutiny. But nothing came of it, and we laughed over our false alarm. Nevertheless its effects remained. We were more watchful and suspicious of evil thereafter, and to this alone we attribute the fact that we subsequently succeeded in discovering the disease before it had made much progress. A cell of suspicious aspect always attracted, and always received attention.

From my Bee-Record, for the same

summer, I quote as follows:

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Aug. 12.-Noticed, to-day, in a comb at No. 7, a cell with a somewhat discolored and depressed cap. Removing it, found, to my dismay, a dead larvæ in quite an advanced stage of decomposition. Proceeding to uncap other cells, found, scattered among healthy brood, thirty or forty dead drone larvæ. In the worst cases they were of a lead color, soft, and slightly offensive to the smell—the odor being sour rather than putrid. Noticed no perforations in the caps. They were usually slightly depressed. On another comb, found two dead worker larvæ. Could find nothing more, but as the hive contains a large amount of brood, and is overflowing with bees, examination was unsatisfactory. I carefully cut out the two dead larvæ from one comb, and destroyed the comb containing thirty or more. Removed the queen and contracted the hive entrance. Fortunately, there is little or no robbing these days. * *

We were now seriously alarmed,—though by no means ready to conclude that this was foul brood. We attached great weight to the fact that we had found no perforations in the caps. A second examination was made at the time the young queen began to lay—the combs being then nearly empty of brood. Find-

ing nothing wrong, we gave the bees the benefit of our doubt, and allowed brood-rearing to continue. Repeated examinations disclosed only healthy brood, here and elsewhere, during the remainder of the season.

We concluded, Nellie and I, that dead brood might not, of necessity, imply foul We congratulated ourselves that we had dared to disregard the advice of Mr. Quinby—"should a dozen or two such" viz., dead larvæ, "be found, the stock should be condemned at once, and all the bees driven into an empty hive." (See Mysteries of Bee-keeping, page 219.) For by thus doing had we not saved nine beautiful straight worker combs? We were very cautious, however, not to exchange combs from this hive with others -a caution which we remembered to observe at the beginning of the next season -last spring.

But for the past season's experiences we shall need another chapter.

CYULA LINSWICK.

Meeting of Mississippi Valley Bee-Keepers' Association.

In response to a call issued some time ago from the State Board of Agriculture, a number of gentlemen interested in the culture of bees assembled yesterday afternoon in the room of the Board, to effect a permanent organization. The following gentlemen were present: Hon. Norman J. Colman, Hon. John Monteith, E. A. Riehl, of Alton; J. T. Colman, L. C. Waite, Esq., T. W. Guy, of Kimmswick, W. G. Smith, Prof. Riley, Hon. Josiah Tilden of Jaser county and Mr. J. R. Tilden, of Jasper county, and Mr. J. R. Cordell.

Upon motion of Col. Colman, Mr. E. A. Riehl, of Alton, Ill., was elected chair-man, and Hon. John Monteith, secretary. Col. Colman stated that he had been

spoken to by several gentlemen, not present, with reference to calling this meeting. Had seconded their efforts. Bee-keeping is a very important industry and ought to be fostered as much as any other industry of the nation. Here in the heart of the Mississippi Valley an organization of bee-culturists ought to exist. In other parts of the country such or-ganizations have long existed. In the West old fogy ideas still prevailed, and people seemed to think that the best hive in the world was still the beegum or hollow log. The speaker thought a permanent organization should be effected.

Mr. Waite said that a State Bee Keepers' Association had already been organized, but for the past three or four years nothing had been done. There were per-haps twenty-five or thirty members. This association had been in the habit of meeting in this city during Fair week.

The meetings had always been very interesting, and were largely attended. Mr. Waite thought it would be a good idea to

revive this association.

if Mr. Waite Col. Colman asked thought October the best time for holding such annual meeting. Mr. Waite thought so from the fact that there were so many farmers in the city at that time.

The chairman differed from Mr. Waite. When people came to the Fair they didn't come to attend horticultural meetings or

meetings of any kind.

Mr. Guy, of Jefferson Co., did not believe in the feasibility of reviving the old society. New men could organize much better than revive an association. The speaker was also in favor of holding the annual meetings at some other time than during Fair week.

Mr. W. G. Smith offered the following

resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That this meeting now proceed to organize an Association to be known as the Mississippi Valley Bee Keepers' Association, and that we pro-ceed to the election of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall hold their office for one year, and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

In accordance with this resolution the following officers were elected for the

ensuing year:

President-Norman J. Colman; Vice-President-E. A. Riehl; Secretary-W. G.

Smith; Treasurer—L. C. Waite.
Upon motion of Mr. Guy, the officers
were constituted a committee to draft a constitution, to be published as soon as prepared.

Upon motion of Mr. Smith, it was decided that when the association adjourns, it adjourn to the first Tuesday in April.

Free discussion being now in order, Mr. Riehl gave a brief narration of his experience in bee-keeping for the past year. He kept twenty-five or thirty hives. Tried to prevent swarming as much as possible. The past season has been unpossible. favorable to bee-culture. He thought the extractor prevented swarming. Of course he clipped one wing of the queen, and this was a great preventive.

Mr. Smith said his experience with bees had been merely experimental. used the Longstroth hive, so arranged as to use either story, sometimes one story at the top and again the other. In artificial swarming he left it as near as pos-sible to nature. The past season had been a favorable one to bee-culture in St.

Louis county.

Mr. Waite said that the past year had been a most prosperous one in this locality, as well as some distance south of here. There was no doubt that in keeping bees, frames of some kind should be used in

ves. Keeping bees meant hard He favored Italian bees. Had the hives. work. kept, some seasons, 150 stems of bees. He instanced, in arguing, that bee culture would pay, that he had had one hive that put up 250 lbs. of honey in one season. Mr. Waite recommended the Queen hive as the best for all purposes. He had been keeping bees fifteen years: knew, that properly attended to, they would pay at least one hundred per cent. The fault seemed to be that farmers were too apt to neglect their bees.
Mr. J. T. Colman said he had noticed

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his bees during the past week lighting up. on the buds of the maples.

Col. Colman said he had kept bees for twenty-five years. He thought the secret of success in their cultivation was to keep He said he was a the swarms strong. convert to the movable-frame hive, for the bees could be then handled like stock of any kind. Hives can be equalized and saved by its use. He preferred the Queen hive. He explained in detail the advantages offered in the Queen hive. In con-cluding his remarks, Col. Colman congratulated the Association upon their organization, and pledged himself to do all in his power to further their interest.

Mr. Guy objected to the use of smoke about the hives: he recommended to those fearful of being stung, a fine wire

mask and rubber gloves.

Mr. Smith thought there were times when smoke was absolutely required. Col. Colman said he had found honey

an excellent remedy for chills.

Mr. Smith referred to the vast quantities of adulterated honey on the market, and this called out a random and desultory discussion upon the subject. It was the sense of the Association to procure the passage of a law rigorously punishing all persons guilty of manufacturing and vending adulterated honey.

Mr. Tilden, of Jasper county, having come in after the meeting had advanced somewhat, was called upon to state somewhat of the progress of bee-culture in his section of the State. He briefly stated that in the remote past, apiaries had not done well in Jasper county, but during the past year bee-culture had met with gratifying results.

There ensued a brisk discussion upon the proper construction of hives, participated in by Messrs. Cordell, Smith, Col-man and Monteith. There was considerable difference of opinion. Mr. Riehl took the President to task for having said that the culture of bees was an easy task and could be safely entrusted to children.

Col. Colman said Mr. Reihl had mis-represented him. He (Colman) had said that to insure success in bee keeping, the utmost care and unremitting labor were necessary. He had said and still contended that women and children were just as well qualified to take care of the apiary. Col. Colman then proceeded to inject a female suffrage stump speech into the

belly of his argument.

Mr. Monteith congratulated Col. Colman upon the stand he had just taken upon the woman question. He doubted not that woman had the potentiality in her for doing the work referred to. So far as the speaker's experience was concerned, he had found the women well qualified for the conduct of bee culture, as soon as they could overcome their timidity.

Mr. Reihl desired to set himself right with Col. Colman. He had misunder-stood the gentleman. However, he still insisted that the culture of bees necessi-

tated hard work.

Prof. Riley asked the following questions: Do the bees make or gather honey? Does the queen bee meet with the drone a second time? Would the gentlemen present, when they come upon white bees, please preserve them for the speaker?

Mr. Waite was positive that bees gathered honey. He had fed his bees on syrups and found that they deposited the syrup unchanged in the hives again; the honey, all knew, was frequently flavored with buckwheat, etc., etc.

Prof. Riley disagreed with Mr. Waite. He was satisfied bees made honey, otherwise man could mancfacture honey as well as bees.

The Secretary and Treasurer were instructed to solicit essays upon practical subjects to be read at the next meeting.

Prof. Riley consented to speak upon the subject of "Do bees injure fruit," illustrating his remarks by diagrams.

The meeting then adjourned to the 4th of April, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

For the American Bee Journal.

"Whom the Gods would Destroy, they first make Mad."

Mr. Editor:-Having good reason to believe that the columns of the "Old Reliable" are open even to the "heretics and infidels," and having received let-ters from bee-keepers asking me why I do not defend myself, I will, with your permission, answer a few of the charges brought by Bros. King and Slocum. While I recognize the fact that "jangling" is neither wise nor profitable to any concerned, still it does seem as though a few "remarks back" were at this time called for. What intelligent apiarist can imagine for one moment that he alone is "going to so reduce the number of beekeepers, as to secure fabulous prices for his honey?" Supply and demand, cast off production, etc., will attend to that. Put truth and error together and agitate them, and "truth will ever come uppermost, and ever will justice be done," as long as production of honey costs as much as at present. We do hope to command more "fabulous prices" than those I quoted in our last convention.

I would ask Messrs. King and Slocum if they would be benefited if each honey producer would sell each of his three nearest neighbors one-fourth of his api-

ary?
This question answers itself. Would (So does this one.) Again, would they like an apiary on every square mile in America? Honey producers, would we? Why did the California bee-keepers petition Congress to grant them each a large area of land? We petition all men and women to show up both sides of the subject when they write or talk upon beekeeping, even if their wares do go off slower.

"To be successful one must keep large

apiaries," etc.

Who are the "successful" ones? Whose pictures are centrally located in Root's Medley?

Have these men succeeded? Do they "keep large apiaries"?

"This branch of industry has been neglected." "Thousands of pounds of honey are yearly going to waste." Thousands of pounds of tannin goes to waste during the clearing of our oak forests, and probably always will, so long as the drug stores are well filled, and the cost of gathering it twice exceeds the market price.

The difference between "agriculture, stock raising, etc.," and bee-keeping, is that stock and grain gain their sustenance from the land their owner owns. But no more so with bees than with the fisherman, berry-picker or merchant. farmer cares how much his neighbor produces. What salesman does not care how many "opposition stores" set up in his town? Oh? we are different from other folks—we raise queen cages, tin corners, kettle feeders, \$5 bee hives and big stories, for sale. ("Send stamp for circular.") "English Journals have no paid contributors." That is nice.

We too will give away to every one who may happen to open a book, our best, hard-earned discoveries, if they will in turn support us in luxury, as they do in England. If farmers only could raise honey for 111/2 cents per lb. at retail, what a nice thing it would be, wouldn't it?

But here again the laws of nature say

"Mixed farming" is becoming less and less the order of the day in this section. Whether I loaded my gun heavy or light, it seems that I made the fur fly, if I

didn't kill out-right.

I do not know what K. and S. mean by "progressive bee-keepers," unless it be those who have "progressed" out of real production into the more ethereal realms of salaried situations ("please send in money to pay expenses"). If I have insulted any one, wouldn't it be better if K. and S. would not repeat the insult by telling them of it, as though they would not find if out alone? From the tone of letters I have received and the conversation of all I have talked with upon this subject, I am not afraid of any "contempt," except from contemptible sources. Now Bros. King and Slocum, don't begin to "cud-dle" up to Gleanings so soon; all the attaches to apiculture are not going back on you. Only the few who are try-ing to support their families by the production of honey and bees, are going to wake up to their interests, as the Californians have done, and help to skim off the froth and get at the real substance of the pursuit. All those fellows who form a double-line gauntlet, which nearly every one of us have run, and been bled thereby, will stick to you as long as you will float them by advertising their wares and capturing new victims for them.

No matter how much money may be made in vending worthless apiarian supplies at high, unreasonable prices, if there is not a living to be found in the real production of honey and bees, I, for one, am ready to break ranks and seek some other way of bettering the condition of my family and the world. We expect many who have no adaptability to apiculture, and who have been led to its adoption by one-sided reports, "garbling," etc., together with the big delusive stories told by supply venders, will noiselessly drop out of the business, while new ones will embark in it.

What we want is "free and accepted" bee-keepers, and honesty follows. who have carefully weighed both sides, and whose natural adaptability to the business, tells them to stem the current. To such, and all honey producers, do we extend the right hand of fellowship. If all those who have lost, and given up in disgust, would SPEAK OUT, the clamorers would drown the hum of all the bees in the world. We want a Bee Journal. One will do-one not run to the interest of hives or other fixtures - one that welcomes every new comer as one of our little squad slowly trudging up the hill, but seeks to proselyte none-one DEVOT-ED TO THE INTEREST OF THE HONEY PRO-JAS. HEDDON. DUCERS OF AMERICA. Dowagiac, Mich., Feb. 5, 1876.

Mr. Walker, a Cincinnati scientist, has allowed himself to be stung once a day for three weeks by bees, to ascertain the effect. He says that after about the tenth time the pain and the swelling were slight, the body seeming to become inoculated with the poison.

For the American Bee Journal, Economize their Labors.

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Mr. Editor:—No doubt but thousands are situated like myself in respect to bee pasturage. We have white clover in abundance, but little basswood. We have also a pretty good fall pasture. What honey we get comes in flirts, and is of short duration.

And now comes the question: How shall we work our bees so as to take advantage of their labors? If we build up powerful colonies, either natural or artificial, by the time we get them well started to work in boxes, they send out swarms, and our nice calculation is spoiled. Messrs. Langstroth and Quinby tell us, and all experience corroborates the truth they state, namely, that newly hived swarms work with more energy than old stocks, and will accumulate stores much faster. Now if this be a fact, shall we not take advantage of their labors and have them store their honey for us in nice neat glass boxes or small frames for market, instead of having them filling new hives with brood combs! I have been testing a plan, more or less for two seasons, and am very much pleased with it, and will hereafter work my entire apiary upon it. I like it, first, because I can run my apiary of sixty colonies with but a small increase of stocks, no matter how much they may be disposed to swarm; and, secondly, because I get a great deal more honey and in better shape.

I will now give a description of the plan. For example, I have 60 swarms to commence the season with. I shall work 40 for box or small frame honey, as combhoney is our hobby; in 20 swarms I want to build combs and furnish brood. The brood I want to keep up the strength of honey-storing stocks. Now, then, natural swarming is what I practice, as it's the only plan that will succeed this way. As soon as a swarm is on the wing I take from a b c d of my reserved stocks and fill the hive to be used, all but one or two combs; allowing them to build them in the center; all those combs must be well filled with hatching brood. Now cover the entire top with boxes or frames and hive your swarms, then compel them to go into the boxes, as all below is full and every day those stocks are gratronger, from hatching brood. swarms are very strong and must be well ventilated by raising the hive up, so as to make a passage for bees all around. If honey is plenty boxes will be filled in 6 or 8 days, but of course this time will depend on the flow of honey, but in the course of twenty days you must overhaul these swarms, remove all frames from hives that are nearly filled with honey, and fill in with hatching brood to keep up the strength of stock. But some judgment must be used not to crowd the queen too hard for room to deposit more or less eggs, or she will go above to surplus boxes. Some one will want to know if we can keep such stocks from swarming. We answer, no; if the season is a good one for honey, you will get a swarm from them about the first of August, but not till they have filled two or more sets of boxes, and if they do swarm we will find some place for them to fill some more boxes, as we can unite them to any swarm in the yard that has room for them.

We now propose to consider uch increase is wanted, an and but a small number is needed, and surplus is the object, we shall proceed as follows: From seven to eight days (and here let me say that date of swarming should be made on each hive) will be the right time. There are now no eggs or larvæ for the bees to construct queen cells from; overhaul any such stock; shake off all the bees, cut out every queen cell—be sure you get every one, for this is important; now remove all combs from the hive that contains the most honey, fill in with capped brood, put on your boxes, and run into this hive a big swarm. Do it in this way: Hive your swarm to be united and set it close to the one to be run into; leave it till nearly dark, then raise hive one inch in front on blocks, bring on your platform and shake down swarm eighteen or twenty inches in front; they will travel in just like any other swarm, and your job is done. Now we have a stock stronger than it was before, casting its swarm. Now, if the flowers are yielding honey, you will get some. Follow up this plan until you have returned a big swarm to each hive. But should swarming continue you may have to make some more new swarms.

What shall we do with the combs that are removed from time to time containing honey? Extract and give to your brood stock, or keep them in reserve, as they may be wanted later in the season. Suppose I should hive ten or fifteen swarms in August, and I have but two empty hives, I will use them and return all the rest, after removing all queen cells; but do not run a swarm back to its own hive, as in many cases it does not satisfy them, and often comes out again.

Some may be disposed to inquire what is gained by this method. We answer, first, that we have but a very small amount of drone comb built, as all our brood stocks built worker combs; and secondly, that our stocks are all very strong, and all receptacles are filled very quickly, so that the honey has a much cleaner and finer appearance. And lastly, we are satisfied that a much larger amount of surplus is the result.

Another plan given by us can be found

in February number of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for 1872. On doubling stocks we still practice this plan more or less, and have found nothing better. On this plan we have more than trebled on our surplus.

We have united hundreds of swarms in this way, and in but a very few cases had to resort to scenting them with pepper-

mint or anything else.

In conclusion, we sometimes think it would be better if writers would say more on the subject of "Honey, and how to obtain it," not extracted alone, but nice comb honey; but few articles appear directly on this one subject, the most important of all. I confess I keep bees for one object and no other-dollars and cents.

J. BUTLER.

Jackson, Mich., Feb. 3, 1876.

For the American Bee Journal. How to Make It.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING THE STAR MOVABLE COMB BEE HIVE.

As I have been using the Star Bee Hive for some time, and as it is very simple and easily constructed and gives very satisfactory results in yield of honey and increase of stocks, and combines all the good points necessary in a bee hive, and leaves out all the bad points, useless appendages, etc., I will endeavor to give instructions for making it. For the body of the hive take two boards, 15¼ inches long and 11½ in. wide for the ends, and two boards 18 inches long and 11½ inches wide for the sides; the latter to be rabbited one-half inch wide and one-half inch deep; and if a deeper rabbit is desired, the boards must be as much wider as the rabbits are deeper. Then nail these boards up solid with several nails at each corner, letting the side boards in a little at the top, just so the top bar of a frame will fit in a little loose; this will make the body of the hive a little wider at the bottom than it is at the top, so that if any frame is a little out of square, the bottom corner will not be so apt to touch the side of the hive and be glued fast. The bottom board should be 151/4 inches wide and 30 inches long, and should be nailed on tight, letting it be even with the back end of the hive and projecting ten inches in front of the hive for a lighting board. The entrance should be one-fourth inch high and about four or five inches long. Ventilation should be made by boring a number of one-inch holes in the front end boards and kept closed up tight, except when it is necessary to open them, or a part of them, to prevent the bees clustering on the outside of the hives in hot weather. The cap should be about two or three inches high, and large enough to fit down over the body of the hive and rest on strips about one inch square, nailed on the body about threefourths of an inch below the top. The lid to the cap should be about 18 inches wide and three or four inches longer than the cap, and let it project equally at both ends. This hive can be made of green lumber, just as well as dry, by allowing enough for shrinkage, except top and bottom boards, which must be dry.

A board should be laid on top of the cap to prevent the sun checking the lid. The quilt should be about 23 or 24 inches long and about 18 or 19 inches wide, and should be laid over the frames, under the cap. The upper story is made just like the lower one, but without bottom board or entrance. The upper story can be used for a set of frame or honey boxes. If used for boxes, a strip 1/4 inch thick and 11/2 inches wide should be laid across each end of the frames and along each outside frame in the lower story for the boxes to rest on and to prevent the bees getting up outside the boxes.

I sometimes use a long hive, holding 20 combs instead of a two-story hive, for surplus honey in the combs, or for the surpus noney in the comos, or for the extractor. The frames are constructed of five pieces: One top bar, 1 by ¼ inch and 14 inches long. One bottom bar ½ by ¼ inch and 12¼ inches long. One guide bar ½ by ¼ inch and 12 inches long, and two side bars 1 by ¼ inch and 10 inches long.

10 inches long. To nail a frame together, first take two side bars and drive a nail through each one, 1/4 inch from the end, and into the ends of the guide bar. Second, nail on the bottom bar. Third, nail on the top bar with four nails, driving them through and into the top ends of the side Thus you have a light and durable frame, 12 inches wide and 10 inches deep in the clear, with the exception of the little space occupied by the guide bar. This guide bar is just as good, in every respect, as if brought down to a sharp edge. It also acts as a brace to the frame. For these frames I use ¾ inch finishing nails. As lightness in frames is very desirable, especially in surplus combs for market, the frame is much preferable to some, I have seen in use with timber enough in the top bar to make the whole frame. I order my frame bare sawed at a planing mill or sash factory, from straight grained pine lumber. They cost me 30 cents a hundred. I think this size and shape of frame is as good as any for all uses. For a one story-hive, exclusively, I think I would prefer a frame two inches deeper; but for two stories that would be objectionable, as it would be too far for the bees to travel to get to the top of the upper story. I use 12 frames in a hive, 18 inches long.

S. K. MARSH.

Sixth Annual Convention of the North. Eastern Bee-Keepers' Association.

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The Northeastern Bee-Keepers' Associ. ation was organized to promote the scientific culture of bees, by means of the mutual interchange of views and by co-oper. ative experimental investigation. Its mem. bers consist of prominent apiarists in New England and the State of New York. According to announcement, the society met at Stanwix Hall, Rome, N. Y., Feb. 2, 1876. Notwithstanding the inclement weather, the attendance was large. The meeting was called to order at 2 P. M. by the president, Capt. J. E. Hetherington, of Cherry Valley. The Secretary, J. H. Nellis, of Canajoharie, read the minutes of the last meeting, which were duly approved.

The Treasurer not having arrived, his

report was deferred.

The committee appointed at the last meeting to provide for a suitable representation of the bee industry at the Cen. tennial Exposition, presented a report of progress, and further time was granted, during which a plan will be perfected.

The committee whose duty it was to present a bill to the State legislature, for the prevention of adulteration of honey, reported that for several good reasons, which had not been properly weighed at the convention, the committee con-

cluded not to act.

The President's address was then heard. The president paid an eloquent tribute to the memory of Moses Quinby of St. Johnsville, whose labors in the promotion of advanced agriculture, and especially in the field of bee-culture, made him famous. He further criticised the practice of exaggerating the profits of this business and ignoring the failures and unprofitable seasons. Four out of five who enter the business fail because they are not adapted to it. The chief need now is a greater knowledge of wintering, and scientific observation. A vote of thanks was tendered the president for his able address. (Will forward the President's address

soon.)

A number of members were enrolled, after which balloting for officers was in

Capt. Hetherington was unanimously re-elected, but positively declined on ac-

count of private duties. Balloting then progressed, with the following results: President, Reuben Bacon, of Verona; Vice-President, I. L. Scofield, of Verona; Vice-Fresident, I. L. Sconeu, of Chenango Bridge; Secretary, J. H. Nellis, of Canajoharie; Treasurer, L. C. Root, of Mohawk; Honorary Vice-Presidents, N. N. Betsinger, Onondaga county; C. R. Isham, Wyoming county; W. E. Clark, Oneida county; and G. M. Declittle Onondaga county Doolittle, Onondaga county.

The correspondence of the Association

was then read. An article prepared for this Association, by Dr. W. B. Rush, and published in the December number of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, was read.

INTRODUCING QUEENS.

The Secretary then read a paper upon this topic, by Charles Dadant, of Hamil-His paper was as follows

ton, Ill. His paper was as follows:
Since it is now proved that bees, like the other
animals of the farm, can be improved by importing foreign breeds, the question, "how to introduce queens safely," arises, and becomes an indispensable knowledge to bee-keepers. Many a good
and costly queen has been lo-t or impaired, by
lack of experience, in introducing. It is to guard
some novice bee-keepers against such losses that
I will try to give my experience on this topic.
The introducing of queens when they arrive from
Italy, presents more difficulty than in all other circumstances. The queens, at their arrival, have
been for three to five weeks confined in their
small boxes, with bodies of worker bees that died been for three to five weeks confined in their small boxes, with bodies of worker bees that died with dysentery. Some of these bodies are rotten; often some are mouldy; the honey sometimes begins to sour, or it is of inferior grade, gathered from heath or chestnut, or from some other plant cities heavy of had graph! The others heavy. one some are mouldy; the honey sometimes beins to sour, or it is of inferior grade, gathered from heath or chestnut, or from some other plant giving honey of bad smell. The queens become thoroughly impregnated with these unplessant odors. No wonder if the bees, which are so clean in their habits, whose hives smell so good, are ill-disposed to accept these foreigners, in place of their beloved mothers. Yet, by complying with the instincts of the bees, we have succeeded in inroducing our imported queens, with nearly as much sucess as with our home-bred queens, our losses not having exceeded five or six. on about 150 imported queens, introduced in our apiary last season. No doubt a loss amounting to four per cent. will seem to the experienced bee-keeper, heavier than the regular percentage of the losses in introducing home-bred queens. But we have to remember that some of these queens died from disease caused by the fatigue of their long journey. An indispensable precaution is to introduce the queen, as soon as the queen to be replaced has been taken from among the bees. If the bees bunt, during a few hours, for their queen, without fading her, it often happens that some worker-bees are so anxious to have the queen replaced, as to raise queen-cells. In such cases the safe introduction of the queen is doubtful. Sometimes the queen will be tolerated at first; but the bees will raise a queen of their own, and afterwards a few bees will swarm with the foreign queen if the weather is convenient, or the queen will be illused by the bees, maimed, even killed, if the colony is too feeble to swarm, or if the weather is unfavorable for swarming. To cage in her hive for some hours, the queen to be replaced, can give the same bad results. But if yon take the queen in the hive before the bees have remarked their absence, they will be madely

same bad results. But it you take the queen out of the hive, putting the foreign queen in the hive before the bees have remarked their absence, they will be unable to know the change, and your queen will have best chances of being well received.

It is sometimes possible to let the queen go directly among the bees without any precaution, but as in so doing the most experienced can meet but as in so doing, the most experienced can meet with no success, it is more prudent to use some precautions, especially for costly queens. For years we have introduced queens with water scented with peppermint. A few losses have deterred us from this modus operandi. This method is always successful with us in the honey season, if bees, combs, and hives have been well soaked with scented water: but in times of scarcity of honey in the fields, it results, sometimes, in losses, and according to my experience, it is to the present honey in the fields, it results, sometimes, in losses, and according to my experience, it is to the presence of robbers in the hive that such losses ought to be attributed. It is impossible, in time of scarcity, to have a hive open for a few minutes, without being surrounded with robbers, especially if there are some sweets to be gathered. To scent all the bees, the combs, and the inside of the hive, it is necessary to put all out of the hive. The robbers are few at first, but they have all the time necessary to return to their hives, and to bring with them their comrades before the hive is closed

and the tranquility restored. As soon as the scented bees recover from their trouble, they fight the robbers, and, too often they mistake the new queen for a robber, and kill her.

Whatever be the method used to introduce queens, the greatest care should be taken to prevent robbers from entering the hive at the time vent robbers from entering the hive at the time the queen is liberated. The necessary precautions are, therefore: First, to avoid letting the bees know that their queen is gone; Second, to use some stratagem to let the bees believe that the queen introduced, is their own queen; Third, to avoid the invasion of the hive by robbers when the queen is liberated. To fulfill these conditions, we search for the queen to be replaced, and as we search for the queen to be replaced, and as soon as she is removed, we put the queen to be insoon as she is removed, we put the queen to be in-troduced, in a cage, between two combs, directly above the brood, taking care to put her cage against some sealed honey so as to give her a chance of eating, in case that the bees would forget to nurse her. Then we close the hive, taking care chance of eating, in case that the bees would forget to nurse her. Then we close the hive, taking care to diminish the entrance, so as to help the bees against robbers. From 35 to 48 hours after, we open the hive, and, without removing the cage, we take out one of its stoppers and put in its place a small piece of comb-honey; then we close the hive. Our cages are made with a small piece of wire cloth, eight meshes to the inch, rolled on a hit of broom handle, with two hits of correctors for of wire cloth, eight meshes to the inch, rolled on a bit of broom handle, with two bits of corn-cobs for stoppers. When liberating the queens, we act as quietly and as quickly as possible, so as to disturb the bees the least opportunity for entering the hive. While the bees gnaw the combs, the tranquility is restored in the hive, and the queen walks quietly among the bees. As the queen, after such a trial, can be easily frightened, it is prudent to leave her undisturbed for several days. Usually, we do not look at our introduced queens before six or seven days after they are liberated. We can then ascertain whether they are laying, and see if the bees have built queen-cells. I know of a good many valuable queens being killed by the bees by the fault of their owners, who were too earnest to see if their queens had been accepted by the bees.

A general and untechnical paper by

A general and untechnical paper by Herbert A. Burch, of South Haven, Mich., was then read by the secretary

(This paper will be forwarded in a short time.) Votes of thanks were tendered the authors of these papers by the convention, and they were ordered enrolled as honorary members.

Various questions were presented, and "Question Drawer" was proposed.

The following gentlemen were chosen to answer the questions presented, with the understanding that upon difference of opinion existing among members of the Association, the question might be dis-

The committee were P. H. Elwood, T. L. Scofield, G. M. Doolittle.

A committee to draft resolutions upon the death of Mr. Quinby was appointed, consisting of E. W. Alexander, J. H. Nellis, P. H. Elwood.

The Association then adjourned to Thursday morning at 9 o'clock.

During the evening an informal social ssion was held. Mr. Scoffeld, Vicesession was held. President, occupied the chair in the evening, when a free and easy conversation all around followed. The question of whether it is profitable to insert extra un-capped comb-honey in the center of the hive to incite breeding, was raised. There was a difference of opinion. Some favored the insertion of clean, empty comb, as this might be useful to the queen, which is not the case with comb containing honey. It requires time for the bees to remove honey from the comb; time to insert the comb, and is an interruption to the operations of the queen. No one favored wholesale feeding, and few favored feeding at all for the purpose of stimulating brood raising.

Mr. Elwood would not feed liquid sweets to induce breeding, when the bees have sufficient stores in the hive.

If bees are short of honey in the spring, Mr. Doolittle would advise feeding the honey all at once, instead of a little

daily.

Capt. Hetherington would feed rye meal in the spring, before pollen appears, for the purpose of inducing breeding. Use rye meal mixed with saw-dust to prevent their smothering in it. Such feed should not be placed far away, as it is desirable to keep the bees near the hive until all fear of cold weather is passed.

Mr. Betsinger thought that to feed anything before the 1st to 10th of May is a disadvantage, as it induces bees to stray away and perish. He is never troubled for want of pollen. He would like to exchange it for empty comb. In some localities pollen does not seem to be so plenty. Mr. Betsinger would give \$10.00 for some plan to successfully extract pollen. He loses wax in getting rid of it.

Mr. Doolittle found that the excess of pollen comes from hard maple and wild grape blossoms. As white clover is not plenty in his locality, the bees get honey very slowly from it, so that they strain the comb by running over it. Where clover is plenty, no such trouble is experienced. He considers the bass-wood the great honey producer. It remains in blossom from three to twenty-one days. It is the honey tree—a cluster of blossoms sometimes contains one or two drops of visible honey.

Capt. Hetherington and Mr. Scofield expressed the opinion that cool nights are unfavorable for the development of honey in blossoms. Hence last season was a bad one. They notice that they get a good yield of clover honey when the clover seeds well, and of buckwheat honey when farmers have a good crop.

Mr. Betsinger wanted to know how far bees will go to gather honey. It is proved positively that they go two miles. In case of scarcity, Capt. Hetherington said they might go farther. He counts on their working over an area of a mile and a half radius, and locates his apiaries accordingly. Mr. Doolittle is sure they go of choice four or five miles, and gave facts that seemed to sustain the idea. Mr. Scofield was of opinion that his bees travel much farther west than in any other direction—probably because they catch the odors from that direction best.

Mr. Betsinger has noticed the field of operations of his bees, and is satisfied that they go at least seven miles away from home, and travel as fast as a mile in two minutes. Mr. Doolittle confirmed this statement. His Italian bees have been seen and lined from three miles beyond Skaneateles lake, which is two miles wide, and two miles southwest of his residence, a distance of seven miles.

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Mr. Doolittle and Mr. Betsinger allow the bees to raise all the brood they can, claiming that while the hive is filled with brood, the bees will fill the boxes, and the more brood hatches, the more workers there are, and the more boxes will be filled. As fall approaches, brood decreases, and the comb is filled with honey for the winter use of the bees.

Thus these gentlemen get all the early and best honey in their boxes, and the bees feed on the last made and dark honey. By this practice, these apiculturists have been eminently successful. They use small frames. See the table.

Mr. Doolittle thought that more bees perish from going out in the spring and gorging themselves with cold water, thus chilling themselves, than from any sudden falling-off of the temperature of the atmosphere. They require water for the purpose of brood rearing; and it should be supplied to them, with the chill off, near the hive.

Capt. Hetherington was of the opinion that the appliances and improved system of management now in practice among advanced apiarists, secure three times as large a yield of honey as could be obtained six years ago, by the system then in general operation. He thought that from a judicious system of non-swarming, the best results are obtained, as the whole force of the colony is then engaged in the production of surplus honey. But in case the swarming fever gets possession of a stock, it must be broken up at once. This is best done by humoring them. In general management, to allow a moderate increase is much better than to undertake to suppress the swarming fever altogether.

At request of members of the meeting, Mr. C. R. Isham, of Peoria, N. Y., exhibited his new glass honey box, which was well received by the most experienced, and universally admired. It is thought this box will revolutionize the style of surplus honey packages.

SECOND DAY.

The very large attendance, and keen interest manifested, was evidence of the progressive tendency of the promoters of this growing industry. Since the organization of the several associations, experiment and discovery have increased the productive power nearly one-half. There yet remain many questions to answer, however; regarding some radical

points, there is as wide difference of opinion as that which separates the advocates of deep and shallow setting, or high and low temperature among dairymen. The student who shall discover an unfailing method of keeping bees during their dormant period will be a public benefactor. Practical men are studying the habits of the insect, and not a few have arrived at conclusions respecting temperature during winter, satisfactory to themselves.

This morning the roll was called, after which several new members were enrolled.

The Treasurer presented his report, by which it appeared that the balance in his hands is \$79.39. A number of ladies were present.

As the "Question Drawer" was not ready to report, Mr. Nellis asked for a general discussion of the following questions:

Shall we encourage the use of the Honey Extractor, or shall we discard it? If we use it to how great an extent?

use it, to how great an extent?

He wanted to draw out the expression of this society, as many prominent writers and associations favored discarding its use.

C. L. Root, of Mohawk, presented his views. The extractor, he said, used in connection with boxing is indispensable. It is one of the greatest inventions in beeculture. There are stocks which can hardly be controlled. The extractor compels lazy bees to go to work by withdrawing the honey. The best results with the extractor have not been attained. He had extracted largely for five years, and had had no difficulty in disposing of it. In practical shape, a market could be made for it at home. The distant markets are glutted. Canned honey, if genuine, will keep. We should develop our home mar-kets. Some members had found it difficult to sell extracted honey at home; but it seemed to be the general opinion of the convention that good honey could be sold among the farmers. Mr. Root believed that stocks whose honey had been extracted went into winter quarters in much better order than when boxed. Brooding is largely increased by extracting.

Mr. Nellis leaves his liquid honey for sale on commission. If it candies, he takes it home and liquifies it by heating. Much will depend upon the market and the method of selling. Many find it difficult to peddle honey. It would be difficult to dispose of large quantities, without much exertion. He believed his liquid honey did not cost more than two cents per pound, as he could only count the expense of extracting and marketing.

This honey could not be obtained by any other method.

Some strong stocks are intent on swarming. By extracting, he procured honey from bees which would not work in boxes.

Other stocks are too weak to work in boxes.

Captain Hetherington believed the extractor a useful instrument, which will never be abandoned. But stocks from which box honey is wanted, should not be extracted. In the fall, unfinished boxes can be extracted and the combs put in a cool situation for the bees to clean out. In this way the combs can be used to the best advantage in boxes the following season.

Bees do not work well in unfinished boxes kept over to be filled the next

N. N. Betsinger.—Will not the bees eat up the combs so exposed, and will not foul brood be disseminated?

Capt. Hetherington.—If the combs are put where the sun does not strike them, and the day is not too warm, the bees will not injure them. No foul brood will be disseminated by this process.

Mr. Nellis.—Foul brood is a terrible scourge. None but experienced beekeepers should attempt this method, when they have reason to suppose that foul brood exists in their apiary.

N. N. Betsinger, on the other hand, believed the extractor to be ruinous to the industry. He could find no use for it in his apiary. It is instrumental in the spread of foul brood. But it had been the experience of Mr. Hetherington that the use of the extractor eliminated foul brood.

Mr. Root had found that freezing combs destroyed foul brood. The extractor may be safely used upon brood in all stages of development.

Mr. Nellis advised the convention to use the extractor principally upon weak and lazy stocks, and those troubled with the swarming fever.

Mr. Doolittle agreed with Mr. Betsinger.

The general conclusion seemed to be that the extractor is indispensable if properly used, and will not be discarded.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

The contents of the question drawer were then read by P. H. Elwood, of Starkville, chairman of the committee to which they had been referred. The answers to the queries presented were prepared by a committee of three practical bee-keepers, and we present them entire:

tire:
1. What is the best method of controlling the swarming fever? Answer—The free use of the extractor, or by making an artificial colony.

2. Is it an injury to bees to have more forage in the spring than they need for brood rearing? Yes.

3. Is it necessary to give bees a flight that are wintered in cellar or house? No. 4. Should bees have ventilation in wintering; if so, how much? Yes; not

as much as is generally given.

5. Side or top boxing, which is preferable? Two of the committee were in favor of top boxes; one was in favor of

6. Which is the better method of swarming, natural or artificial, where box-honey is the object, and you wish to double your stocks. Two of the committee prefer natural swarming; one prefers artificial.

7. Which is advisable to produce, box or extracted honey, when you have a

or extracted honey, when you ready market for either? Both.

8. Why do bees seal up cracks and apprings in the hives? To retain the animal heat.

9. Should an excess of honey be removed from the hive in the fall or in the spring? In the fall.

10. How far apart should apiaries be ocated? From four to seven miles, de-pending upon the size of the apiary.

11. Is it important with the Italian bees that the guide combs in the surplus boxes extend from bottom to top of honey boxes? The more comb the better.

12. Why do bees leave their hives about the 1st of May? Discouragement from

confinement, mouldy combs, or small cluster of bees.

13. What is the best method of preventing after swarms? Introduce a young,

fertile queen.
14. How should a queenless stock be managed, when the keeper has no queen in the spring? Unite with another stock

having a queen.

15. What should be done when in the case of an after swarm whose queen had been destroyed, and which had been returned to the parent stock, but which persisted in coming out day after day? Destroy queens until all save one is

16. Upon what conditions does success in wintering depend? Good stocks in the fall; proper temperature and ventilation;

perfect quiet.

17. Is there any sure cure for foul brood save the destruction of bees and comb? Yes, by preventing brood rearing, by the free use of the extractor, and by smoking the combs with brimstone.

A paper on "Ventilation" was read by P. H. Ellwood, of Starkville. He gave interesting instances of plant ventilation and absorbtion, and quoted from authorities to support his views.

(This paper will be forwarded to you, if possible.)

Upon motion of Mr. M. B. Warner, the association proceeded to select the next

place of meeting. The first ballot showed a large majority in favor of Syracuse. Syracuse was thereupon unanimously chosen as the next place of annual convention. After a

brief discussion the convention adjourned for dinner.

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MOSES QUINBY.

Upon the opening of the afternoon ses. sion Mr. Ellwood read a biographical sketch of Moses Quinby, the veteran aplarist, who died in May last at St. Johnsville. The sketch was an eloquent tribute to the memory of an earnest investigator, discoverer and honest man. Mr. Quinby had been President of the association for five years. An ode by S. Alexander, of Camden, suggested by his career, was read. Both papers were ordered printed in the report. Formal resolutions of respect were also adopted, as follows:

WHEREAS; We have been called to mourn the unexpected death of our honored brother, Moses Quinby, former president of this association-to whose exertions it owes its existence, and to a large degree its continued prosperity-there-

fore, be it

Resolved, That in his death, bee-keepers throughout the civilized world have sustained an irreparable loss, and bee-culture has lost its most practical writer and

ablest expounder.

Resolved, That as his counsels have contributed so largely to our success as individual bee-keepers, we will endeavor to pay the debt of gratitude we owe him, by contributing to the success of what he considered his life work-the placing of bee-culture among the masses upon a sound financial basis.

Resolved, That, while we tender our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family, we realize that none but the family can fully understand the loss which they

have sustained.

Resolved, That these resolutions be recorded on the minutes of the Association, and that they, together with an ode by 8. Alexander, be presented to his esteemed

THE CENTENNIAL.

Letters from the centennial bureau of agriculture were read, inviting a full display of apicultural products.

On motion the matter of a representa-tion of honey and bee apparatus at the centennial, was referred to the committee already appointed with the addition of 30 new members. The entire committee is as Cherry Valley; J. H. Nellis, Canajoharie; P. H. Ellwood, Starkville; L. C. Root, Mohawk, and R. Bacon, Verona. Full authority to make necessary arrangements and to use the funds of the convention, was delegated to the committee. No other association of bee-keepers has taken action in this matter, and all responsibility rests with the Northeastern Association.

The few remaining hours of the convention were devoted to discussion, of some of the questions answered by the com-

mittee in the morning.

Mr. Bacon took issue with answer given by them, to No. 8. He claimed it was chiefly, if not altogether, to exclude the enemies of the bees, prominent among which, is the moth.

Mr. Elwood sustained the position of the committee, stating that bees do not use propolis until late in the season, after the ravages of the moth are nearly ended.

The Association agreed chiefly with the

committee.

Mr. Nellis suggested that Mr. Bacon try the Italians and he would have no more trouble with moths. This led to a discussion of the merits of blacks and Italians. The Italians were generally conceded to be the best for all purposes.

be the best for all purposes.

Mr. Nellis said he would refrain from expressing a general opinion, as his purpose might be deemed selfish. He believed that where buckwheat is the only or principal source, the black bees will

gather the most honey.

Question No. 15 was discussed. The answer was deemed inadequate. The fear was that the swarm might come out and start for the woods, when the keeper would probably fail to catch the queen. Mr. Betsinger recommended, that the swarm be hived in a box and placed at the side of the old stock, within about two feet. In two or three days, at evening, shake the swarm on a sheet, hunt out the queen and return to the present hive. In the meantime, the bees of the old stock, being too weak to swarm, kill off all but one queen. The bees that marked the new stand, return to the old hive.

Wintering was discussed at considerable length, eliciting various opinions and methods, with instances of success to sustain each. The statistical table published herewith, speaks practically, and

should be studied.

A majority favored using a moisture conductor, non-conductor of heat, upon the top of the hive. This class think too much draught of air is often given. Mr. Gates showed that his bees had no top ventilation, unless it came through the propolis and boards, and yet his bees wintered well. The secretary then alluded to Mr. Hoffman, of Fort Plain, and Mr. Bucklin, of Little Falls, who winter in the same way. Investigation shows that with Mr. Gates and the gentlemen named, the temperature never fell below thirty-six degrees Fahrenheit. The conclusion was that if no top ventilation is given, the temperature must not go down to the freezing point. Mr. Hetherington stated that Mr. Bucklin kept his bees long confined—to nearly the first of May. Mr. Gates and Mr. Bucklin warm their dwellings with furnaces, situated in the cellars.

Mr. Hoffman thinks the moisture which accumulates, is necessary to brood rear-

The difference in the size and shape of

frames—so long as they are convenient to handle—was deemed unimportant.

The Secretary was convinced that the difficulty, to a great extent, is a disease—not contagious, however. He cited many instances where bees formerly wintered well in the most exposed situations, and under most adverse circumstances, but now the utmost care and study must be given. He knows plenty of men who have kept many bees with no special care, for from 20 to 60 years, successfully, yet for the last three or four years they have had no bees.

The Association did not generally agree

with him.

Mr. Bacon has no trouble in wintering bees; the trouble is in spring, when caught in cold snaps. He houses his bees; but last spring his losses were nearly all after the 6th of April. His neighbors, who kept their bees out of doors, suffered in the same way, in the spring. Brood was plenty at the time.

A gentleman suggested that bees be kept in a way to keep them quiet until the middle of May, when danger from

cold is over.

If Mr. Bacon can get a day in the first of January and one at the end of February to set them out, and give them a good fly, he has no fear of dysentery.

Mr. Betsinger did not like the idea of handling and exposing bees in winter to fly, both on account of risk and expense.

One gentleman thought locality had a good deal of influence. In his locality bees cannot be wintered out of doors. Five miles away they winter well.

Five miles away they winter well.

Mr. Betsinger is of opinion that many stocks perish because of the loss of the

queen, which makes them uneasy.

Mr. Bacon says 60° is too high a temperature, and 20° too low. He prefers 38°. There may be reasons why others would do better with a higher or lower temperature. He puts a cloth, and four or five inches of cut straw over his bees to absorb moisture and prevent too much radiation of heat.

Mr. Nellis has better success with a temperature of 48°, but he uses no such absorbing material.

Very much of the discussion of the different sessions was not recorded.

On the following page will be found a very valuable table, showing at a glance what several of our prominent members have done during the past year, and by what management it has been accomplished.

Adjournment was taken subject to the call of the executive committee. The sense of the house, taken on motion, indicated a wish that three days instead of two be occupied by the annual conven-

tion in future.

J. H. NELLIS, Sec'y.

NORTH-EASTERN BEE KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE PAST SEASON.

	Amount of sugar fed, fall, 1875.			112 1 12 1 12 1 12 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
	əq	t to	Average; value	Mdm. Poor. Mdm. Poor. Mdm. Mdm. Mdm. Mdm. Mdm. Mdm. Mdm.
SATIONS.	ed.	YBY TR9.	Amount of V	White clover W. clo. & buckwt. Clo., cat. & buckwt. White clover White clover White clover D. White clover W. clo. & buckwt. D. White clover W. clo. & buckwt. D. Clover & buckwt. D. Clo. Jind. & goldnd. D. Clover & buckwt. D. Clo. & buckwbeat. D. Clo. & bass. & buckwbeat.
PE	Jo :	ced.	Extracted.	70 86 96 96 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97
ON'S	Am'nt of	produced	Вок.	1,12,471 0000,1000 00000 00000 00000 00000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
SUCCESS OF THE SEASON'S OPERATIONS	Number and Size of Frames.			22 Cross bar. 8 frames, 11x17 23 Green's Imp 8 frames, 10x16 34 Plain frame, 8 frames, 10x16 37 Gulinby 8 frames, 10x18 31x12 32 Standard 144x144 34 Gold Qulinby 9 frames, 10x18/4 35 New Qulinby 8 frames, 10x18/4 35 Stason. 8 frames, 10x18/4 35 Stason. 9 frames, 10x18/4 36 Union 7 frames, 10x18/4 37 Langstroth 10 frames, 10x18/4 38 Qulinby 8 frames, 10x18/4 39 Union 8 frames, 10x18/4 30 Union 8 frames, 10x18/4 30 Union 9 frames, 10x18/4 31 Qulinby 10x18/4 32 Grames, 10x18/4 33 Qulinby 10x18/4 34 American 10 frames, 12x12/4 35 Gulinby 10x18/4 36 Grames, 12x12/4 37 Grames, 12x12/4 38 Gulinby 10x18/4 39 Grames, 11x2/12/4 30 Origin of frames, 11x2/12/4 31 Dobolitid's Imp 9 frames, 10x18/4 31 Grames, 10x18/4 32 Grames, 11x2/12/4 33 Grames, 11x2/12/4 34 Grames, 11x2/12/4 35 Grames, 11x2/12/4 36 Grames, 11x2/12/4 37 Grames, 11x2/12/4 38 Grames, 11x2/12/4 39 Grames, 11x2/12/4 30 Grames, 11x2/12/4 31 Grames, 11x2/12/4 32 Grames, 11x2/12/4 33 Grames, 11x2/12/4 34 Grames, 11x2/12/4 35 Grames, 11x2/12/4 36 Grames, 11x2/12/4 37 Grames, 11x2/12/4 38 Grames, 11x2/12/4 39 Grames, 11x2/12/4 30 Grames, 11x2/12/4 31 Grames, 11x2/12/4 31 Grames, 11x2/12/4 32 Grames, 11x2/12/4 33 Grames, 11x2/12/4 34 Grames, 11x2/12/4 35 Grames, 11x2/12/4 36 Grames, 11x2/12/4 37 Grames,
	Name of Hive.			22 Cross bar 8 frames 45 Quinby 8 frames 77 Standard 8 frames 77 Standard 8 frames 78 Standard 8 frames 12 frames 12 frames 13 frames 14 frames 15 frame
	ocks	fall.	Blacks.	1
	f St	In	Italians.	135 35 35 35 35 35 35 35
	No. of Stocks	-	Spring, 1875. Fall, 1875.	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
SUCCESS IN WINTERING.	Manner of Wintering briefly expressed.			No top vent'n—entrance open. Jittle top ventilation. Julite on and entrance open. Quilte on and entrance open. Quilte on—straw on sides. No top vent'n—entrance open. No top vent'n—entrance open. No top vent'n—entrance open. Julita on—five over cellar. Julita on—five over cellar. Top ventilation. Top ventilation. Top ventilation on sides. Julit op vent'n—ent. open ½. Packed over and side of frames. Ventilation top and bottom. Carpet, etc., over frames. Carpet, etc., over frames. Carpet, etc., over frames. Quilts on—entrance closed. No top ventilation—ent. open.
SUCCESSI	Where Wintered and the Temperature.			Cel., abo Bee hous Dark 260 Cellar, 360 Cellar, 30 Cellar, 30 Cellar, 30 Cellar, 30 Cellar, 46 Cellar, 46 Cell
	Fall, 1874. See Spring, 1875. See Spring, 1875. Condition in spring.			日本: 美元元元 美田元元 日元元 日元 美国 美国 美国 美国 美国
				100 100
	120	1	NAMES.	B. F. Wright 28 Bacon 198 F. H. Gates 198

* g, good; w, weak; m, medium, and w, uneven. + Mr. VanAlstine's wintered well out of doors. ‡ Degrees, Fahrenheit. | Mr. Van Dousen is wintering about twenty nuclei, each having from one to seven frames.

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Report of the Centennial Committee of the North-Eastern Bee-Keepers' Association.

The committee to whom was referred the matter of making proper arrangements for inducing bee-keepers to display their bees, honey and apiarian implements at the great National Centennial, wish to announce that they have held correspondence with several parties in relation to the matter, and finally received communications directly from Capt. Landreth, Chief of the Bureau of Agriculture.

We find that gentleman very courteous and exceedingly anxious that every means be used to induce bee-keepers to make a good display—equal to that made in all other branches of agriculture—and commensurate with the importance of the in-

dustry.

He reports to us that very few entries have been made in the "Centennial Proper." It is well known that articles to be exhibited in it must be on the grounds April 19th, 1876, and remain through the entire exhibition—about six months. We informed him that honey that was gathered last season would not be in condition to exhibit; and if it was, could not be kept in good condition for so long a period.

These facts led to the establishing of special shows, and we cannot do better than submit herewith a letter just received from Capt. Landreth, bearing upon this

subject.

"U. S. CENTENNIAL COMMISSION, Philadelphia, Feb. 18, 1876.

J. H. Nellis, Sec., N. E. Bee-Keepers' Assosiation:

Sir:—Your letter of inquiry of Feb. 12th, has been received, and I now proceed to reply to the questions in their serial order.

During the entire six months of the International Exhibition, working bees and apiarian apparatus, in all its ramifications, will be on exhibition, and honey

and wax as well.

But to afford additional opportunity to beekeepers, it has been decided to have two special displays of honey and wax; viz.: June 7th to 15th, and Oct. 25th to Nov. 1st.

The continuous exhibition will be made in the large Agricultural Building; the special exhibitions will be made in an adjoining structure, to be known as the Agricultural Building for special displays

ricultural Building for special displays. The Apiarian Exhibition commencing June 7th, will be held in connection with the display of strawberries, and that commencing Oct. 25th, in connection with the display of nuts.

Though apiarian apparatus will be exhibited during the entire season, still it

may be considered appropriate to allow the entry of such implements and fixtures as will be necessary to make clearly manifest the methods of proceedure, to accomplish the results represented.

In neither of the seasons of exhibition will there be a charge for space, nor an entry fee. Each worthy exhibitor will have, during the season of his display, free entry to the exhibition, and will be required to assume all charge of his arti-

cles.

The Centennial Commission levy a tax of fifteen (15) per cent. on the gross receipts of all articles sold within the exhibition grounds, and from this rule no

exception can be made.

Though premiums, consisting of medals and diplomas, will be issued by the Centennial Commission to the exhibitors of the most meritorious articles in all classes, still it is considered highly desirable that Apiarian Societies, Journals and Individuals should offer special prizes, and in this they have already the precedent of special prizes to the value of over five thousand dollars, now offered for other displays of agricultural character.

May I not look for a special prize from

your Society?

In relation to the exhibition of working bees, I have pleasure in informing you that two parties have applied for space and furnished drawings and specifications for House Apiaries, each to contain from ten to twenty hives.

BURNET LANDRETH, Chief of Bureau.

From the above letter it will be seen that we have no positive assurance that hives, honey extractors, knives, bee veils, honey boxes, etc., etc., can be exhibited at the special shows. We, therefore, recommend that those having a desire to exhibit Apiarian wares, shall make immediate application to Capt. Landreth for space, or information concerning the same, that their articles may be in place April 19th.

The rules governing this exhibition are very liberal, and as none of us shall see another National Centennial, it is certainly to be hoped that a grand response will

be made

In our next report we hope to announce what special prizes are to be given, and for what articles or objects. In the meantime, we hope to receive communications from parties throughout the country, relative to prizes they are willing to offer for

special purposes or displays.

We will be pleased to hold correspondence with any person who may have suggestions to make, or information to give, so that the Bee Department may be fully an equal to the other industries that will be there so fully represented. As no other societies have taken steps to the development of this scheme, we hope they will

fall in with us and give all the assistance in their power, as a perfect success should be mutual to the entire brotherhood.

J. H. NELLIS, Sec'y. J. E. HETHERINGTON, Chairman.

> For the American Bee Journal. Sundry Items.

"The February number just to hand. This is as we like it. The Journal, Magazine, and Gleanings are usually on hand within a few days of the first of the month it calls for; would that 'The World' could be induced to be equally as prompt.

"We have had a very remarkable winter. The coldest day was Saturday, Dec. 18th; the thermometer ranging at 14 degress on that day; the next being Friday, Jan. 14th, thermometer, 20 degrees; from these it has ranged up to 60 degrees. Fully two-thirds of the weather has been clear and fine, having but little rain and only one slight having but little rain and only one slight sprinkle of snow, which was on the 9th of December. You and your readers are doubtless aware that we, in this latitude, winter our bees in their summer stands, so you see, from what I have said of the weather, that our bees have been able to fly out very near the whole winter. We have about 60 colonies in our queen-rearing yard, and so far have lost only three. The first lost was one which we had purchased in a box-hive and had not transferred: it was taken by the moths, Nov. 19th. The next we discovered was Jan. 13th, which went up for the want of The last was on Sunday, Jan. 23d, which was by a "leave-taking," and to us, a very mysterious one. The day was a very fine one, but windy. We had taken a stroll around the hives, but discovered nothing unusual: returned to the house and was seated upon the doorsteps, when a neigh-bor came up and asked if we had lost a swarm of bees, to which we replied, that we had not, but in company with him took another stroll among the hives, still finding nothing wrong. We then went with our neighbor to his house and found that a swarm had entered one of his hives, and a "big fight" was going on, with hund-reds of the killed and wounded strewn around. We now returned to our yard and made another examination: we soon came upon a hive beseiged with robbers, a considerable fight also going on, and now and then a bee entering with pollen. We opened the hive and found it totally deserted, yet containing plenty of honey, both capped and uncapped; also pollen in abundance, and eggs and brood, both sealed and unsealed, showing that they were not queenless, nor in a destitute condition. The queen of this colony was one of my own rearing, having hatched in August; was fertilized and laying, Sept. 5th: she was very prolific. Now will

some one inform me why she took her

departure?
"Friday, Jan. 21st, made an examina tion of the most of our hives; found the majority of the queens laying, and all with ample stores. Our truant queen had sealed brood, and by this time, probably, has young bees nestling about her."

WM. J. ANDREWS. Columbia, Tenn., Jan. 26, '76.

For the American Bee Journal. Visiting.

On a beautiful morning in August I found myself in Hamilton, Ill. I went there on a visit for which I had longed for several years. From the various articles I had read, I anticipated that I was soon to see an apiary, whose equal was not to be found in America. Nor were my expectations doomed to disappoint ment. By a little inquiry, I found that the Messrs. Dadants lived about two miles north of Hamilton, on a little stream known as Chenny creek. Just a nice morning walk all shaded by beautiful little trees, quite a quantity of which were Linden. The path crosses the creek quite a number of times. The water is almost as clear as crystal; it runs over the rocks very swiftly. In some places it runs by high ledges of rock, out of which numerous springs of pure, cold water flows. The largest of these, is called "Wild Cat Spring" and is known for miles around. It is the favorite pleasure resort of hundreds of people of Keokuk. It issues from a large cave and affords hundreds of gallons of water per hour. The water is conducted through large wooden troughs and falls in a large artificial reservoir. A pretty grove right by the side of it is sur-rounded by a cute, rustic fence; here and there ladies and gentlemen are seen strolling around playing croquet or other games. The path, after leaving this spring, passes by one or two cottages before coming to the home of the big bee

man of Chenny creek.

After leaving the last cottage it is but a very short distance; the view on both sides of the path being cut off by a dense growth of shrubs, until you find yourself by the side of a regular liliputation city with about a hundred and eighty houses almost all alike except that they are painted different colors. The apiary is situated on both sides of a point of a hill; the greater part of the apiary slopes to the southeast, the remainder to the south. Just at the north edge of the apiary they are building a new house, I presume Mr. Dadant, Jr., expects to import a queen to introduce into it, for he assured me that imported queens were the best.

I was highly pleased to learn that they expected to receive an invoice of queens the next day, I accepted the pressing invihim api troc the twe box que

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tation to stay and see them. As they d z not come early in the morning, C. P. Dadant concluded that he must go to an apiary some fifteen miles down the Mis-sissippi (for they only live about a mile from the river) and put on honey boxes, as they were just getting their first yield of honey for the season. But when we arrived at Hamilton, he found that the queens had arrived and been sent out to him; as he had the whole care of the apiary, he concluded to go back and introduce the queens; when we got back they were not yet unpacked. There were twenty-two in the invoice; in some of the boxes every worker bee was dead, the queens alone being alive. While Mr. Ch. Dadant unpacked and caged them C. P. and I introduced them; they do not lose more than one or two out of a hundred in introducing. They simply confine the queen about forty-eight hours, then having liberated her do not disturb the hive again for a week. This was the eighth invoice of 22 queens each, they had received this year, but since they have received three more invoices which are all they get this year; the whole number of queens they have received is 236, out of this number about 80 were lost in importing, six or eight in introducing.

Receiving queens thus every two weeks they are enabled to supply the place of queens shipped to their customers and to cull out as worthless, every queen which does not produce bees of the highest grade of purity. In the afternoon we took several of the best of the queens taken out, to make room for the imported ones, to an apiary right on the bank of the river some five miles above their home apiary. road leads by some of the most delightful scenery I ever saw. It runs along on the bank of the river just above high water mark; at last the road twists and winds around through a ravine till you find yourself on top the high bluff before a pretty little French cottage, beside of it are over fifty hives on a steep south hill-side; here C. P. overhauled all these hives, putting on quite a number of boxes and introducing ten or fifteen queens in about two hours. After partaking of a splendid supper we returned to Chenny creek by moonlight, enjoying a good ride. This was one of the most pleasant days that ever fell to my lot to enjoy.

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The next morning I concluded to see the lower apiary, having again hitched to his wagon-load of honey boxes, his lively horses soon brought us to an old farm house with a steep hillside dotted with Quinby hives; here we found quite a number of boxes filled with honey. C. P. thinks this is the finest location for an apiary he ever saw. Right in front of it are thousands of acres of low bottom lands covered with wild flowers of all kinds. His boxes being put on, and quite

a number of new colonies having been made, we returned to their home apiary. As I bade adieu to Chenny creek I felt well repaid for my visit, only wishing that such apiaries were more numerous.

A. N. DRAPER. Upper Alton, Ill., Jan. 12, 1876.

Voices from among the Hives.

Sidney, Iowa.—Jan. 12, 1876.—" During the past winter there has not been over 10 days at a time that bees could not fly. For the past three weeks they have been out nearly half the time. A neighbor of mine lost one or two swarms the first cold snap, by starvation, with the lower part of the hive full of honey. He had extracted from the upper story and the bees clustered among the empty combs. When the cold came on, not being able to reach the honey, they starved. In the October number, H. Nesbit reports an increase of 545 colonies from 32. That beats the world. I would like to have a description of his management."

WENHAM, MASS.—Feb. 15, 1876.—"Bees are wintering well. We have had a very mild winter, and bees have had a chance to fly as often as twice a month."

Schoharie Co., N. Y.—Feb. 11, 1876.—
"I like the Journal much, and hardly see how I could get any success without it. I have 70 swarms and they are all wintering well."

GEO. VAN VORIS.

CEDAR Co., Mo.—Jan. 29, 1876.—" I am well pleased with The American Bee Journal. I can't well do without it. My bees are still in winter quarters, and are in good condition. I have purchased several box stands this winter and expect to make 50 new Langstroth hives' this season—have 20 of them done now. I expect to increase to 75 or 80 colonies, if the coming season should be a good one."

J. F. Lynn.

COLUMBIA, TENN.—Feb. 14, 1876.—"I examined several hives yesterday, and found quite a number of young bees and drones in a hatching state. Will have drones flying in a few days."

WM. J. Andrews.

TAMA CITY, IOWA.—Feb. 9, 1876.—"I put 104 swarms in basement cellar last tall. They are doing well—all but one very weak swarm. About one-half of my bees are Italians." W. E. Newcomb.

NORTHUMBERLAND, Co., PA.—Jan. 18, 1876.—"I went into winter quarters with 15 stands. Last year I saved only 10 out of 24 I don't know what causes the bees to leave the hive in May, with plenty of brood and honey, and a clean hive. Three of mine did so on May 8th."

W. H. GARIHAN.

CLINTON Co., ILLS.—Jan. 21, 1876.-"Yesterday I noticed the ground nearly covered with dead bees in front of one of my September swarms, and on examing them I found that many of them were young bees, some of them almost white, though apparently perfect, but I thought they looked very large for worker bees. To-day being pleasant and the bees flying freely I thought I would look into them. They are in an old box hive of about 2,000 cubic inches (I had run short of frame hives) about three-fourths full of comb. I turned up the hive and smoked the bees; to my surprise the drones began to fly out quite lively and from what I could dis-cover, the foul center combs appear to have been full of drones for several inches in height, and there are a good many yet in the worker cells. I could not discover a drone cell in the hive. There are plenty of worker bees, and honey enough to last them till spring if they drive out the drones which they appear to be doing pretty fast. There has not been a week at a time this season that my bees have not been flying, and some of them have carried in loads half the day, the one spoken of above, being among the busiest. I think some of the old hives have not taken in anything though flying as lively as those that do. C. T. SMITH.

COLUMBIA, TENN.—Jan. 21st, 1876.—
"We made an examination of our hives to-day, found they all had plenty of stores, and a large majority of the queens laying. Our Dadant queen had sealed brood, so we will have young bees in a few days. Every mail is bringing us letters inquiring how soon we can furnish queens. We will have new queens by April 1st, or sooner. These letters are called forth by our advertisement, as we have not sent out any circulars, except in response to correspondents."

Staples & Andrews.

Boone Co. Mo.—Feb. 12, 1876.—" Bees safely on their summer stands; 120 colonies all in perfect health; combs as bright as the day they were housed; without the less of a single colony; fewer bees lost during their first flight than ever before."

E. C. L. LARCH.

MILLEDGEVILLE, ILL.—Jan. 17, 1876.—
"We received the chromo all right. It
more than met our expectations. It is
simply beautiful. We never saw such a
good present given to a single subscriber
to any paper. Our bees (35 stocks) are
wintering well, so far. We put them in
the cellar Oct. 29, about four or five weeks
earlier than ever before. By the way, we
have been reading the proceedings of
Michigan Beekeepers' Society. A paper
was there read from Mr. A. Salisbury,
which I would be glad to see published
in the A. B. J."

F. A. SNELL.

[We will publish it if the Secy. or Mr. S. will forward it.] PUBLISHER.

Barnes' Corners, N. J.—Feb. 5, 1876.

"We had but 15 colonies, last spring, left from 41 put into winter quarters, and 12 of these died before June 10th, leaving but three swarms—one very weak. They did not starve; and I attributed their demise to the late honey gathered. Perhaps they did not cap it, and that may have been the cause. They were wintered in a building used for several years for that purpose. It is a double walled brick, filled in with sawdust. The last season was a poor one."

A. S. Lucas.

San Patrico Co., Texas.—Jan. 18, 1876.

—To-day, my bees are gathering pollen and honey. Only three light frosts this winter, so far. This, though, is not usual at this season, even here. I am a little South of 28° N. latitude.

JOHN W. BAYLOR.

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Peoria Co., Ill.—Jan. 3, 1876.—" My Italians were at work on Jan. 1st, very busy; all day they came in loaded down, very often being unable to reach the hive from sheer exhaustion. I watched them for a long time, and saw dozens of them drop into the grass within a rod or two of the hive, and on going to them, found that they invariably got up and went for the hive lively after a minute or so of rest. They appeared a third larger on their return to the hive than when they started out. There is a grove of willows about a half mile distant, to the northeast of my place, and as they invariably came and went in that direction, I imagined that the past week of very warm weather had opened them a pasture in that grove. Isn't it very unusual for bees to find anything to work on, or to have a disposition to work at this season of the year? GEO. M. PIPER.

TRUMBULL Co., OHIO.—JAN. 20, 1876.—I have made a pair of scales for weighing honey, hives, etc., on the plan of grocer's tea scales; length of beam 30 inches, made out of two pieces of old buggy springs. I intend to use them to set a hive on next season, so as to tell at any time whether they are gaining or losing. The scale can be balanced by bricks, stones or anything else. One set of weights, from a 4 lb. to 1 oz. will be enough, or balance the hive on the scales and hang over a small spring balance attached to the hive, which will give the amount gained. I am now making a pair all wood, except the centres, which are steel, that can be made for 25 cents. Any one that can make a hive could make a pair of scales. I could make the centres, if desired. If I thought scales would sell, I would get up patterns and make a good scale for weighing hives or honey. I coax Italian bees to work in boxes by sticking a piece of comb on the bottom of the box, and the bees will work up. Try it.

NAZARETH, PA.—Jan. 24, 1876.—"I have kept bees for 52 years, and still take much interest in them. It does not pay in our section, as the farmers have discontinued raising buckwheat. This winter is a favorable one for out-door wintering, being mild, with no snow, so far."

WM. CHRIST.

CAMARGO, ILL.—Feb. 19, 1876.—"My bees are wintering finely; but my success, for years past, in this respect, has been so uniform, I always expect success after placing them in winter quarters."

A. SALISBURY.

KALAMAZOO, MICH.—Feb. 1st, 1876.-In the February number of the Jour-NAL, in the discussions of the Maury Co. Bee-Keepers' Society, upon feeding, different articles were spoken of, as rye, flour, corn-meal, etc. Some years ago, I had two colonies that became destitute of honey early in March, and with a view to prevent starvation, I commenced feeding syrup made from coffee sugar, poured upon a warm buckwheat cake, feeding upon alternate days. They would eat the cake more or less, sometimes entirely. They bred up very rapidly, and were the strongest colonies I had in my apiary that season. I now believe that the cakes furnished proper food for breeding purposes, in the place of pollen, and shall experiment with it the coming spring. I would be glad to have bee-keepers try it, and report through the JOURNAL.

W. B. SOUTHARD, M. D.

Waverly, Iowa.—Jan. 28th, 1876.— My bees have done well the past season. Out of four stocks I obtained twenty-one natural swarms, all in good condition, and sold \$25.00 worth of honey.

THOS. LASHBROOK.

Fremont Co., Iowa.—Feb. 7, 1876.—The past season opened very unfavorably. Last spring I took out only twenty-nine colonies out of forty-five that I put in the cellar in the fall. Nine of these were weak; twenty good. As soon as the weather would permit, I commenced feeding them syrup made of C sugar, and by the last of June I had fed \$19 worth of sugar. Linn bloomed the first of July. My bees were very strong, and occasionally a swarm would come off in spite of my vigilance to prevent it. About a week before the linn bloomed, I thought we should have a grand honey-harvest, but it rained so much that the bees got but little honey. One day only was fair during linn bloom, and I weighed some of my colonies in the morning, and again in the evening, and found they had gained twelve pounds. If the weather had been good, I can't tell what would have been the result, for linn bloomed profusely here.

The fall was good for honey, and I find, from my books, that I increased from

twenty-nine to forty-six, and have taken 3650 lbs. of honey; all of which I have sold at an average of 19 cts. per pound. I think bee men make a very great mistake in placing their honey on the market in large cities. I sometimes leave some in the stores where I trade, but I sell nearly all among the farmers. I can sell more in one week, out in the country, than I ever sold through the merchants in town all put together. I sell at 18 cts. by 50 or 100 wt., and 20 cts. in small lots. My bees are in excellent condition; they have honey enough to keep them until July.

WM. MORRIS.

FLAT ROCK, N. C.—Feb. 25, 1876. My bees commenced to bring in pollen from off the alders on the 18th of January, and on the 22d they commenced to bring in honey and pollen from the soft maple, and honey from the bee-meadow. I never knew it to bloom before April, till this year. The bees are doing well on the maples any days that are warm enough for them to be out. My bees have done well, so far: lost only two, out of forty stocks.

ROBERT T. JONES.

ОWENBORO, Ку.—Feb. 1, 1876.—"Вее pasturage is probably as good in Ky. as any other State, except California. We have abundance of tulip and white clover in spring, and smart weed in fall; these are our main dependence. We have We have others as helps—as many, probably, as in any other State. We have 6 or 8 large apiaries in this country that have from 30 to 100 stands, owned by men who keep bees on scientific principles and are doing a fair business, besides many bee-hive men, who are doing very well. We got no surplus last year, a frost (April 1st) killed all kinds of bloom, and then it rained from May 1st till August 20th. Our bees, at the time they should have been working in boxes, were starving to death, but by uniting and feeding, we managed to save about two-thirds of them in good condition, having a good honey harvest in the fall. They are now in fine condition and have been rapidly carrying in pollen for 20 days from hazelnut and alder. Such a thing was never seen before in this country. I examined my strongest stands to-day, and found brood in all stages and eggs in drone comb. I shall try to get the drones out as a curiosity. The hives mostly used in this country are the Langstroth and Buck-eye. We have some Extractors, but do not take honey for profit, as the honey does not sell, and besides that, we do not like to sling our bees. I take honey in small frames, and sell it at 25 cents per lb in the home market. I like the way James Heddon talks; his theory corresponds with my experience, and I think he must be a man with a 'head on.'" T. E. GRIFFIN.

PITTSBURGH, PA.—Feb. 9, 1876.—"The honey market has been very dull, honey being a luxury does not find ready sale during such an exceedingly hard season as the past one has been in this section. We hope for a better trade in such goods this year. Our supplies with the excep-tion of a few small lots from Virginia have been brought direct from the Pacific coast." JESSE H. LIPPINCOTT.

WORCESTER Co. Mass.—Feb. 16, 1876. -"I keep a few swarms of bees, not for profit, but for the pleasure of seeing them work and taking care of them. seldom lose a swarm. I winter them on their summer stands and take the whole care of them. I go among them without fear and am but seldom stung. White Clover is our chief honey plant. I find THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL very interesting." Mrs. Edward Brown.

CARLYLE, KANSAS.—Feb. 23, 1876.—" In 1874 bees were an entire failure here, and in 1875 they were not much better. Last fall they stocked up some, but made no sur-plus honey. We scarcely ever get any surplus honey here until smart weed, Spanish needle, and corn are in bloom. Some seasons there is considerable buckwheat sown, then bees do very well."

JOEL B. MYERS.

ELIZA, ILLS.—Feb. 19, 1876.—"On page 15 of AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, in the description of section box the upright sidepieces should be 67/8 inches, instead of 1%. The ½ inch mortice is cut by a saw so set as to wabble. The ½ inch thin strip is laid in these mortices so as to hold the frames in a box. In answer to J. E. of Kansas. It is not like the boxes described on page 108 of AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL 1875, but these frames make a continuous tight box except on the bottom and ends. When these frames are put together there is on each side a continuous groove, in which the thin strip fits; this being tacked at each end holds them all together. Be careful to have this stuff cut JOURNAL, page 15. Honey put up in these frames when nicely made has brought us 5 cents more per pound. When filled with honey one of these boxes will hold about 25 pounds, and yet the frames can be taken apart and one comb sold weighing taken apart and one comb sold weighing 2 pounds, or 1 pound, if frame is small enough. Clark and Harbison do not use any glass in ends. I wish to—will some one inform me through American Bee Journal how to do so." D. D. Palmer.

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J. S. Coe, of Montclair, N. J., has gone to Philadelphia to build one of his House Apiaries on the Centennial grounds.

We have added three noted and practical apiarists to the editorial staff of The American Bee Journal during the past month. Two of these gentlemen have large apiaries in this State, and will give the result of their practical experiments from month to month.

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The Italian Bee Company has been dissolved. The Rev. J. E. Rockwood, of Logan, Iowa, who, with Mrs. Tupper, formed the company, writes us that he would be glad to hear from any one having unfinished business with the Italian Bee Company, and will do all in his power to have such satisfactorily arranged. He has had nothing to do with the business; Mrs. Tupper did that, and he would like the date of transactions given. He is also a victim to her "crookedness." We learn that he is a reliable and trustworthy gentleman, and is not to blame for Mrs. T's transactions.

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